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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 2014

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**Church celebrates
its centenary**
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Homes & Gardens
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TASERED BY POLICE OUTSIDE STORE...

WOMAN'S 'ASTONISHING RECORD' IS BLAMED ON ALCOHOL

**CROWN
COURT
REPORT by
AJ SICLUNA**

A KNIFE - WIELDING drunken woman had to be tasered by the police when they approached her outside a Tesco store in Bridgend.

Rhiannon Roper, 24, who was said to have an "astonishing record" was warned by Judge Eleri Rees at Cardiff Crown Court: "You are not a person who can drink alcohol."

"It is unsafe for you and everyone else."

Roper, of Swn-yr-Afon, Kenfig Hill, admitted charges of affray and theft, and was in breach of a suspended sentence and four breaches of anti-social behaviour orders.

She was said to have breached such orders on 20 occasions in the past.

She was sentenced to a two-year community order and made subject to supervision for two

years. Prosecutor David Wooller said that in September 2011, she was made subject to an ASBO for five years with conditions not to drink in public, not to get drunk and not to have any intoxicants on her.

She was also banned from entering the Tesco store in Bridgend.

On July 14, said Mr Wooller, police spotted Roper at Bridgend bus station.

She had nine cans of lager on her, admitted she had been drinking and said she intended to carry on.

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 24)

New playgroup is officially opened at primary school



Coun Gary Thomas, the Mayor of Bridgend county borough; Abercridin parent Karley Lloyd; Karen Elliot, Mum's Away playgroup; and Amanda Rees, the school's family liaison officer.

A NEW pre-school playgroup and after-school club has been officially opened at Abercridin Primary.

Thanks to a partnership between the school, BCBC's childcare team and the Mum's Away playgroup, up to 20 pre-schoolers are now being looked after each day in the playgroup, while a further 20 pupils from the primary school can be cared for in

the after-school club. The pre-school playgroup opened earlier this year for children aged two to three-years-old, while the after-school club welcomed youngsters through its doors for the first time last month.

The opening was carried out by Coun Gary Thomas, the Mayor of Bridgend county borough, and Ogmere AM Janice Gregory.

Also present at Abercridin Primary School was Coun Huw David, cabinet member for

children and young people, who said: "Both the pre-school playgroup and the after-school club will be hugely beneficial for many years to come."

"Abercridin has never had a pre-school playgroup before, and I am sure that it will lay excellent foundations to help young children prepare for school; while after-school clubs are always welcomed by parents who are trying to balance their family and work commitments."

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SINGLED OUT BY A SERVICE WATCHDOG
AS AN EXAMPLE TO OTHER PRISONS

Paul's care award nomination shows Parc's compassion for dying prisoners

A manager at Parc prison in Bridgend, has been nominated for an award after changing the way it treats prisoners with a terminal illness.

The palliative care protocol pioneered by 45-year-old Paul Goodridge, a former sailor, at HMP Parc has been singled out by a service watchdog as an example to other prisons.

In fact, one prisoner is on record as saying he would prefer to go back into Parc to end his days, rather than the hospital where he had been taken to die.

This example of Paul's deep interest in older and vulnerable prisoners that saw him shortlisted for the prestigious Wales Care Awards 2014 in the 'Excellence in Palliative and End of Life Care' category, sponsored by Barclays Corporate.

The result will be announced at a ceremony in City Hall, Cardiff, on Friday, October 24.

Paul, who is originally from Swansea, joined the Royal Navy in 1986 and became a weapons specialist.

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, he served aboard warships involved in patrol duty during the Iran/Iraq war and first Gulf War.

In 1997, Paul joined the company contracted to run prisons on behalf of the Government, first known as Securicor and now called G4S.

After becoming operational manager at Parc in charge of the day to day running of the prison, it was about four years ago that Paul began a thorough review of the way the needs of older and end-of-life prisoners were being addressed.

He said: "At Parc, we have a large proportion of older prisoners, which is approximately 13 per cent of the total prison population, compared to the national average of eight per cent."

"Like any other section of society, people in prison reach the end of their lives and



ABOVE:
Paul Goodridge, operations director at HMP Parc.

although a number go into hospital, some of them want to remain in a prison to die in an environment where there are very close peer groups, and they are among people they know and trust.

"As a result of the review, we worked very closely with Macmillan cancer care, local health authorities and our own health care team, to put in place an appropriate end-of-life pathway."

"The result was that we set up an Assisted Living Unit at Parc whose five staff members were hand-picked for their enhanced empathy skills. The team is very close knit."

The evidence of how effective the unit has been over the past few years comes in Paul's nomination for the Wales Care Awards.

A report from the Prison and Probation Ombudsman (PPO) into the death of one prisoner in 2013 had this to say:

"I commend staff at Parc for the compassionate and caring approach taken with Mr S and his family, which was an example of good practice that other prisons would do well to emulate."

Last year, a report from HM Inspector of Prisons said: "It says much about the ethos of the prison that during the inspection, one prisoner asked to return to the prison from the hospital to die among people he knew and who cared not

just for but about him."

Paul's award nominator, Parc's clinical manager Clare Frost, said:

"Paul has acute organisational skills and takes an elevated interest in the older and vulnerable patients in a secure environment."

Paul said: "It's fantastic to be recognised and I am completely humbled by it."

"I was shocked to hear about it at first, but I've since realised that it's not just about me but all the people who work with me at Parc."

"Without their enthusiasm and belief in what we are trying to do we wouldn't be where we are now."

"I'm very much looking forward to attending the presentation evening at City Hall in Cardiff with my wife Ann."

Mario Kreft MBE, the chair of Care Forum Wales, said the Wales Care Awards had gone from strength to strength.

He said: "The care sector is full of wonderful people because it's not just a job - it's a vocation."

"If you don't recognise the people who do the caring, you will never provide the standards that people need, and never recognise the value of the people who need the care."

"It is a pleasure to honour the contribution of all the finalists. Each and every one of them should be very proud of their achievement."

The awards are in association with Care Forum Wales, a not-for-profit organisation set up in 1993 to give independent care providers a single professional voice on one of the most important issues of our time - how to provide better quality care for those who need it most.

Young anglers' fishing competition

A fishing competition was recently held at Seven Oaks in memory of Kendrick Griffiths.



Readers' Letters

Porthcawl raised £13,000 for the British Legion

WITH the lovely weather we enjoyed in September, it is hard to believe the Act of Remembrance is just around the corner.

We are pleased to announce that the people of Porthcawl have helped the Royal British Legion to raise over £13,000 in this year so far.

This money goes directly to servicemen and women in their time of need. Special thanks must go to The Rock and Home and Colonial for their continued support and individual efforts with fundraising.

The Porthcawl branch of the RBL celebrates its 90th anniversary and to mark the occasion, we will be holding a very special concert of

Remembrance in the Grand Pavilion on Friday, November 7 at 7.30pm.

The concert will involve our local youth groups with music, school choirs, readings and military acts of remembrance.

The preparations for this concert and Remembrance Sunday started many weeks ago; but if any organisation hasn't ordered a wreath of poppies, please contact us on 01656 784859.

Together we can make this concert a special occasion to be remembered for a very long time. We in turn will remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in wars long ago and those servicemen and women who need our support today.

Sue Rosser-Stanford, Royal British Legion.

Spare an hour for Guide Dogs Week

CAN your readers spare an hour to light up a life? Guide Dogs Cymru is urging anyone with a free hour to pop down to Bridgend town centre on Saturday, October 11, and join us as we spread the news about our life-changing services.

You'll meet partnerships like Pat Worrall and her guide dog Ryley. The faithful Labrador retriever cross enables Pat to lead a busy social life without having to rely on friends and family.

It costs £50,000 for

the lifetime of each guide dog, and the service receives no Government funding, so we rely on the generosity of the public to help us change lives.

Guide Dogs Week runs from October 4-12, with lots of events taking place to raise awareness of the charity.

This year's theme is 'Stand Out', and we're asking people to dress in day-glo at their school or workplace to raise money and have fun.

For more details, call 07990 540130, or email Allison.Charles@guidedogs.org.uk.

Allison Charles, Cardiff, Community Fundraiser, Guide Dogs Cymru.

FORMER Bridgend Rotary president and ex-chief Constable of Merthyr Tydfil, Kendrick Griffiths QPM, was remembered on September 17, when special schools and adult training centres in the area took part in a fishing competition at Seven Oaks, Ystradowen, for his commemorative shield.

Representatives from Bryn Castell, Heronsbridge, Valley Gateway Training Centre, Bridgend Resource Centre and Pencoed Comprehensive School (Special Unit) took part.

The winning team was Pencoed

Comprehensive School and they were presented with the trophy by Rotary president Sue Cassidy.

The Bridgend and District Fishing for the Disabled Association are desperately seeking volunteers from experienced fishermen to assist and ensure the continuation of their very worthwhile, and very much appreciated, monthly fishing competitions for young people.

If you can assist in any way, contact Ralph Merchant on 01656 667855 for further information.

U3A open day is a 'spectacular' success at Trinity Church

THE Porthcawl U3A opened its doors to all comers at an open day held in Trinity Church on Saturday, October 4.

A full turnout of members welcomed the public who showed their interest in large numbers.

Groups of interested newcomers were invited to sample the activities of the 35 interest groups that meet all over Porthcawl throughout the year - ranging from singalong and painting to philosophy and languages such as German and French (even Russian is available).

Each group activity is led by an experienced convenor and they were on hand to advise on all aspects of their activities.

A full programme of events took place between 11am and 3pm. The presentations started with the writing for pleasure group providing a sample of its excellent work.

The high spot was a visit from 'Gladys and Mary', who some say had been drafted in from the West End especially for this event. Then followed four sketches performed both in Latin and English, showing the versatility of the group. We will long remember our lady president wearing a

rather fetching red Texas cowboy hat and vigorously ringing a handbell with very loud acclaim - in Latin, of course!

Our play reading group demonstrated the high quality of their work as they encouraged others to join them prepare performances for later in the year to include Bridgend College.

The storytelling group rounded off the entertainment with excellent samples of their work.

Through the day, between presentations, a revolving film was shown featuring group activities, with the walking group particularly prominent.

As this excellent day came to an end, we reflected on the new members who had joined, taking advantage of the half year reduction in fees to £17.50.

We were also heartened by the large number of serious enquiries received and the offer of free taster sessions to stimulate genuine interest.

There may still be those who require further information to join. Please call 01656 783663 or visit our web site porthcawlu3a.webplus.n et. Be assured you will always receive a warm welcome at Porthcawl U3A. CLIVE MORT

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL OCTOBER 16)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
09 Thur	07.32	10.4	19.54	10.7
10 Fri	08.14	10.6	20.38	10.5
11 Sat	08.56	10.4	21.17	10.3
12 Sun	09.33	10.0	21.57	9.7
13 Mon	10.13	9.4	22.34	9.0
14 Tues	10.53	8.8	23.11	8.4
15 Wed	11.37	8.2		
16 Thur	00.07	7.7	12.37	7.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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CARDIFF CROWN COURT ROUND-UP by AJ SICLUNA

Maesteg man crashed into three vehicles after taking family car

A MAN who had unlawfully taken his mother's car, after which he crashed into three parked vehicles and accelerated towards a pedestrian, forcing him to leap to safety, has been sentenced to a one-year community order at Cardiff Crown Court.

Matthew Davies (27), the court heard, had serious ongoing problems caused by a brain injury he suffered after being assaulted some years ago.

Davies, of Heol Ty Gwyn, Maesteg, admitted charges of dangerous driving, driving without insurance and without a licence.

Prosecutor Tony Trigg said that on June 28, Davies took his mother's Vauxhall Astra without permission.

Soon afterwards, he collided with three vehicles on Davies Terrace, Maesteg.

He hit a VW Passat, lost control and hit a Volvo before veering and hitting a Ford Galaxy. He then crashed into the wall of a terraced house.

As he drove from the scene, he accelerated towards a resident, Anthony Bethley, who tried to stop him and had to leap to safety.

"Davies sped off, but he left at the scene the car's bumper with the registration plate."

He was arrested the following day at Maesteg police station and as a day had elapsed, police were unaware of his condition at the time of the offences. He gave them "no comment" interviews.

The court heard he had previous convictions for 30 offences, including burglary, aggravated vehicle taking, actual bodily harm and criminal damage.

His counsel, Ruth Smith, said: "I acknowledge this case passes the custody threshold. It was serious dangerous driving and the resident felt unsafe."

She said Davies had told her that in the past, he had been the victim of an assault and when he took the car, he was suffering from anxiety. He also suffered from memory loss and panic attacks.

Added Ms Smith: "On this night, he had taken some alcohol. He left his mother's house believing he was in some danger from someone. He accepts this is not a satisfactory explanation."

She said he had a girlfriend who was helping him move along a crime-free path.

In the past, she said, he had had alcohol problems.

He expressed total remorse to those whose vehicles he damaged. She said he had also some time before attempted to take his own life.

The community order involves 12 months supervision, an alcohol activity course, and he was also disqualified from driving for two years.

SUSPENDED SENTENCE FOR DRUG DEALERS

A JUDGE at Cardiff Crown Court has criticised an 18-month delay before a case involving two drug dealers was served.

Judge Daniel Williams said such a delay was nothing less than "inordinate".

Claire Sung (42) of North Avenue, Kenfig Hill, admitted possessing amphetamine with intent to supply and being concerned in the supply of cannabis.

Gareth Morgan (29) of Longacre, North Cornelly, pleaded guilty to being concerned in the supply of cannabis.

Sung was jailed for 12 months, the sentence suspended for 18 months and made subject to a supervision order for 18 months.

Morgan received a 15-month

sentence, suspended for 18 months. He was also made subject to a supervision order for 18 months and ordered to carry out 150 hours unpaid work.

Prosecutor John Warren said that in May last year, police searched a house in North Avenue, Kenfig Hill, and recovered mobile phones which had drug-related messages on them.

In a freezer, they found amphetamine worth £260 plus £1,900 in cash.

They searched the garage at a house in Tondur, where they found cannabis, which was being stored there by Morgan.

Drug related messages were found on a number of other mobile phones. When arrested, Morgan said he was no longer involved with controlled drugs.

Sung admitted possessing

cannabis and said that she had been a long-term user of the drug.

Sung was said to have convictions for being concerned in the supply of Class C drugs, for supplying amphetamine and possessing that drug and cannabis.

Morgan had convictions for possessing drugs and possessing drugs with intent.

Mike Hallett for Sung, said: "She suffers from emphysema. The offences, I'm afraid, speak for themselves."

Owen Williams for Morgan, said he realised the court could impose immediate imprisonment.

"I ask the court to give him one last chance. He has not repeated the offending and has a meaningful life caring for his mother."

Each defendant was ordered to pay £100 victim surcharge.

YOUNG MOVIE MAKERS GET THEIR BREAK

BRIDGEND-BASED *It's My Shout* - which introduces young people to the film and TV business - has announced that 60 newly-trained filmmakers are getting their first jobs in the industry following a summer of training with the organisation.

Collectively known as 'The Talent Pool for Wales' they have been involved with *It's My Shout's* nine summer productions.

A spokesman for *It's My Shout* said: "Despite the recession, the Welsh film industry is currently experiencing a large growth brought on by Swansea Bay Studios and the impending arrival of Pinewood Studios."

The Talent Pool will have their work premiered at Film Fest Cymru, a major event taking place from October 11 to October in locations around Cardiff, Swansea and Caernarfon 14.

There will be a black tie awards ceremony on October 12 in Cardiff to be attended by various 'A' list celebrities from the Welsh media. Tickets are still available.

It's My Shout is currently the largest training scheme available to new starters in Wales, working alongside its key partners BBC Wales, S4C, Skillset Cymru and Arts Council Wales. The Talent Pool for Wales is funded by Creative Skillset in conjunction with BBC, S4C and Sony UK.

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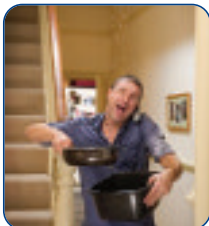
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Bridgend mother praises service for families with genetic disorder

TO look at her, you would think Claire Flay-Petty, a 32-year-old mother of two from Bridgend, has always looked after herself. She is a vegetarian and a non-smoker.

However, she has a genetic disorder which, if left untreated, can cause the arteries to narrow and clog, potentially leading to early coronary heart disease.

Claire is among the many people with Familial Hypercholesterolaemia (FH) – a common disorder causing high cholesterol levels from birth – who benefit from the all-Wales FH service.

She is looked after by her local clinic at Princess of Wales Hospital, which her father and brother also attend, as they have FH too.

Claire said: "By and large, I've been able to lead the same life as anyone else. I have to take two tablets once a day and that's it – so really it's nothing at all."

Claire did have additional support from ABMU when she and husband Jonathan decided they wanted to start a family.

She explained: "If you want to have children you have to stop the medication some time in advance."

"I've been off it most of the last five years while I was having my two children, and once you stop taking it your cholesterol level shoots up straight away."

"It was a calculated risk. Because I'd been on the treatment for some years, I'd got my cholesterol right down so the risk wasn't as great as it might have been – but there was still a risk."

In the UK, roughly one in 500 people has FH, which equates to around 110,000-120,000, but only around a quarter of them have been identified.

Although there are telltale signs, they often do not appear until middle age, if at all, meaning people with FH can be unaware of it until they or a family member have a heart attack at an early age.

As most people receiving treatment can look forward to the same life expectancy as anyone else, it's doubly important to diagnose it early.

Once identified, FH can be controlled with the use of cholesterol-lowering medication

combined with a healthy diet and lifestyle.

A pilot FH screening service was run at Cardiff's University Hospital of Wales and Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend from 2005-10. In 2010, funding was obtained from the Welsh Government and the British Heart Foundation for an all-Wales service.

Delyth Townsend was involved in the pilot at Princess of Wales Hospital.

Although still based there, Delyth is now FH clinical nurse specialist for south west Wales – holding clinics throughout the ABMU and Hywel Dda health board areas. She said: "FH is a very common genetic condition that predisposes people to cardiovascular disease at a young age."

"If it goes undetected, cholesterol levels are twice as high as they should be, but if identified can be easily treated."

"By the age of 50 – and often younger than that – around half of men will have developed heart disease if it's untreated. It's very easy to diagnose but unfortunately too often it is not picked up until someone has a heart



Clinical nurse specialist Delyth Townsend

attack at an early age."

People are referred to the service by other health professionals. Anyone concerned about a family history of premature heart disease or high cholesterol can ask their GP for a cholesterol test.

Delyth said: "If they have a first degree relative – parent, brother, sister or child – who has angina or had a heart attack under the age of 60, or any other blood relative under the age of 50 with premature heart disease, it's worth getting checked out."

"Alternatively, if there is a family history of high cholesterol*, it is also

useful to seek advice."

"It doesn't necessarily mean they will have FH. But if a first degree family member has it, there is a 50-50 chance they will too."

Often patients are offered a genetic test, which is more reliable than a cholesterol test alone. If this proves positive, a genetic test will then be offered to other family members.

Claire's paternal grandmother had her first heart attack at 36, and died of a heart attack aged 54. Her father was diagnosed with high cholesterol in his early 30s, while she and her brother had the same diagnosis aged 20 and 18 respectively.

As the genetic test was not available then, the diagnosis for the siblings was one of potential FH. They did not have confirmation until 2009.

Since then, Claire's brother has survived a heart attack while her father has had major heart surgery.

All three attend the FH clinic at Princess of Wales Hospital and Claire praised the level of care they receive from Delyth and the other health professionals who look after them.

Claire also received consultant-led care throughout both her pregnancies, with fortnightly blood pressure checks, obstetrician appointments and additional scans.

She and Jonathan are the proud parents of Aneira, aged three, and new arrival Gwennan, who was born this summer.

They know their daughters will be tested for FH, though not until they reach the age of 10.

Claire said: "As a family we have benefited from the well organised, efficient and supportive FH service offered in Wales and will continue to do so as our family grows."

"But the worrying thing is that so many people are unaware they may have FH. That's why it is important awareness of the condition is raised."

(*Serum cholesterol >7.5mmol/l or higher)



Claire Flay-Petty is pictured with husband Jonathan and children Aneira and baby Gwennan.

There's music while you shop with Brynteg students!



SOME of Brynteg's Camp Rock cast recently took over Sainsbury's Bridgend for six hours, singing and dancing to raise funds for the upcoming school production and to publicise the talent at the school.

The production is taking place from October 22 – 24 in the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, with a cast of year-8 to year-13 students.

Members of the main cast and chorus performed songs from the show in the foyer, while others packed bags for shoppers.

The cast and helpers raised over £500 and sparked some excitement with the locals! A big thank you to the staff and shoppers of Sainsbury's for their generosity and support.

Tickets are available online at www.grandpavilion.co.uk, at the Pavilion Box Office on 01656 815995, or from Brynteg Lower School Office for £10/£8.



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New term gets off to a busy start at Pencoed Comprehensive School

STAFF and pupils at Pencoed Comprehensive School were delighted to welcome a large number of year-5 and year-6 pupils to the open evening on September 24.

Mr David George, headteacher, took the opportunity of sharing information on the excellent GCSE and A-Level exam results achieved by pupils last summer.

Parents and prospective pupils then enjoyed talks by other staff as well as some year-7 pupils before going on a guided tour of the school. Each department had prepared presentations on their subject areas and there was also an excellent gymnastic display by PE pupils and a really lively performance of the 'Happy' song by drama pupils.

We look forward to meeting pupils at the transition events lined up for the year, starting with the Technology Day on October 8.

Parents of new year-7 pupils also attended an evening recently when they were invited into school to learn more about the literacy and numeracy support available to their children. The parents who attended were really appreciative of the information provided.

There are also nearly 20 parents attending the weekly 'Keeping Up with Your Child' classes every Thursday afternoon.

Dean Ronan, our new pupil support/rugby development officer has been very busy since the beginning of term accompanying pupils and PE department staff on a number of rugby and football matches, as well as going out to the cluster primary schools to encourage sports participation.

The headteacher has also been out and about recently meeting parents of prospective pupils at local primary schools.

This year is especially important for all year-11 pupils. Parents recently attended a special information evening recently advising them of the additional support being provided by the school and of the need for pupils to work hard in preparation for their exams, and to meet all the deadlines for their coursework.



Energetic drama pupils performing 'Happy'.



Miss Torpey and pupils in the English department.



We look forward to seeing parents again at the year-11 parents' evening on Thursday, October 9.

FoPCS (Friends of Pencoed Comprehensive) have also held their first meeting for this academic year. Thank you to all of those who turned up - there was an excellent turn-out with lots of new members present.

The school is very grateful to members of FoPCS for their enthusiasm and support in arranging events and providing refreshments at school functions. The next meeting will be held at the school at 6pm on Tuesday, November 11.

LINDA HARWOOD



Pupils participating in the gym display.



Year-7 design and technology pupils displayed their skills.

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Street entertainment helps Festival go with swing



AS was reported in last week's GEM, the crowds were out in force last week for the 'Festival' food festival, with extra attractions proving popular.

A crew of entertainers could be found on board a 'cabbage boat' which had run aground on vegetables in Caroline Street.

The alternative sports of leek lobbing and egg dropping were popular, while a challenge was set to find who could build the strongest bridge out of spaghetti and sticky tape.

Children flocked to Carnegie House on Wyndham Street for lively musical performances of the hit movie *Frozen*.

All four performances were fully booked, with the arts, crafts and sing-alongs all proving to be extremely popular with young fans of the film, who also enjoyed the chance to meet the characters Elsa, Olaf and Sven.

This year's Festival also featured a champagne tent for the first time thanks to the new Bridgend bar 'Nolton Corner' joining forces with sponsors 'Herbert R Thomas' Estate Agents.



ABOVE: Local youngsters enjoying 'Frozen' activities.

Porthcawl start for Michael's charity walk

PORHCRAWL will be the starting point of a 20-mile charity walk to raise awareness of a mental health issue - bi-polar.

Michael Hamilton aims to start his walk at dawn on Sunday, November 2, leaving from the Hi-Tide Inn in Mackworth Road.

He told The GEM: "My giving page is www.justgiving.com/mikehamilton and if anyone wants to join me on the walk, they can either meet at the start or email me at mikeham1973@googlemail.com for further details

"Bipolar Disorder is a mood disorder, a type of depression that affects many people daily.

"Those diagnosed with it experience episodes of mania alongside the depression. The stigma often associated with mental health issues made me want to highlight this charity and the worthy work that it does.

"It is my first-ever charity event. I love



ABOVE: Michael Hamilton.

walking and have specifically chosen the Porthcawl coastline to Rhondda route, as I know it is very scenic.

"I am looking forward to taking the challenge, as to walk the whole route is a total of 20.1 miles and it takes around six hours.

"I would be grateful for any sponsors, no matter how great or small, who could donate to this great cause," Michael added.

Puppeteer runs half marathon to help teenage cancer charity

A woman puppeteer ran in last Sunday's Cardiff Half Marathon to raise money for a cause that is close to her heart.

Helyn Latimer's run helped raise £500 for Teenage Cancer Trust in support of her friend's daughter, Georgina, who has been receiving treatment for leukaemia for the past four years.

Helyn combined training for her run with her day job as a puppeteer. She works with Puppet Theatre Wales, which is based in the Vale and organises touring productions in schools and theatres.

The St Athan resident explained: "Teenage Cancer Trust has been there to provide expert care and support for the family during this very difficult and challenging time.

"Around seven young people aged between 13 and 24 are diagnosed with cancer every day in the UK. Teenage Cancer Trust treats them as young people first, cancer patients second and relies on donations to fund its vital work.

"I feel very proud to have run as part of the Teenage Cancer Trust team in the Cardiff Half Marathon.



ABOVE: Cast members John Ross Jones and Karen E Hughes.

Local group perform Frank Vickery comedy

TO support the Sandville Self Help Centre, Porthcawl-based Phoenix Theatre.com will be performing their annual production from today, Thursday, October 9, to Saturday, October 11, in the Grand Pavilion.

This year, the company has chosen a firm favourite, Valleys playwright Frank Vickery's comedy *One O'Clock from the House*. The plot revolves

around the funeral of an elderly father, and the behaviour of the eccentric family members.

Founder member of Phoenix Theatre.com, Paul Morgan, commented: "We at Phoenix are so proud to be supporting the Sandville Self Help Centre again this year!

"The more tickets we can sell, the more Sandville will benefit".

For tickets, telephone the Grand Pavilion Box office on 01656 815995.

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Cowbridge's Lucy faces up to life as a working mum!

by PHILIP IRWIN

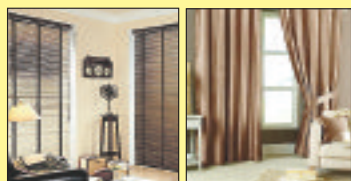


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COWBRIDGE-based TV presenter Lucy Owen has put her own life as a working mum under the microscope for a programme to be shown next week.

She is best known as the face of BBC Wales Today and X-Ray, but she is also a mum, and her son, Gabriel, goes to a local primary school.

Like hundreds of thousands of women across Wales, she balances the demands of work and parenthood – and sometimes feels like she is falling short at both.

The programme, Lucy Owen: Working Mum, concludes with Lucy being told the latest research and information on whether a child's development can suffer when mum is at work.

That tense finish to the 30-minute programme turned out to be an "emotional roller-coaster".

However, Lucy told The GEM that on the way she had met some "exceptional people".

She said: "I talked to a single mum, Bethan Lewis from Glyncorrwg, who is not only bringing up three children but is also juggling three different jobs.

"I also met some mums who found work too inflexible, so they

left and started their own businesses".

Another interviewee is Uzo Iwobi from Swansea, whose children are at university, and Lucy asks whether she has any regrets about the work decisions she made while her children were growing up.

There is also a conversation with 'Mum of The Year' Sam Weaver from Llysfaen, who explains how she gained her prestigious title?

At the end of her journey, Lucy meets Dr Justine Howard from Swansea University to find out if being at work is really harming her son's development – something she was very nervous about.

She said: "This was an emotional roller-coaster. My producer knew what was coming, but I was kept in the dark".

What was the academic verdict? Well, the programme will explain all.

Lucy added: "I do feel lucky to be living in a community like Cowbridge, where there is such a strong group of supportive mums who look out for each other.

"That makes a huge difference."

• **Lucy Owen:** Working Mum, is on BBC One Wales, 8.30pm, October 13.

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Katie will be at Brackla Community Centre, 1 Whitethorn Dr, Bridgend CF31 2PQ on the date listed below.

Monday 13 October 10am - 4.30pm

No appointment is necessary, we can also arrange free telephone consultations and home visits. Contact:

Katie McCraith

T: 0800 0938240

E: katie.mccraith@hughjames.com

W: www.hughjames.com/bridgend

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Extra cash on way for poorer pupils

SCHOOLS in Bridgend county borough will get £3.7 million to fund the education of less well-off children

This is the county borough's share of £106 million from the Assembly Government to be spent over two years.

Primary schools receiving over £70,000 extra in the next financial year include Penybont Primary, Pil Primary, Plasnewydd Primary and Caerau Primary.

Among the Comprehensive schools to benefit are Maesteg Comprehensive and Brynteg

Comprehensive, which will each receive over £200,000 extra. South Wales West Lib Dem regional AM, Peter Black claimed that his party's pressure had secured this funding, in exchange for "allowing the Welsh Government's budget to pass".

He said: "The money will be given to schools as part of the Pupil Deprivation Grant, which is a Liberal Democrat policy introduced by the party in our first budget deal with Labour's Welsh Government in 2012".

Each school will receive £1,050 for every pupil who has free school meals next year. In 2016, that figure will be increased by £100 to £1,150 per pupil. Mr Black stated that he had negotiated the deal, and added: "As part of the budget deal, the Welsh Liberal Democrats have also secured a £3.8m extension to the Pupil Deprivation Grant to include children under the age of 5. This will be worth £300 per pupil.

"Too often children from poorer backgrounds fall behind in school even at an early age so this policy is designed to tackle inequalities in our education system."

ANNUAL CONCERT

THE St Mary's Catholic Church, Bridgend is the venue for the Bridgend Male Choir annual concert at 7pm, this Friday (October 10).

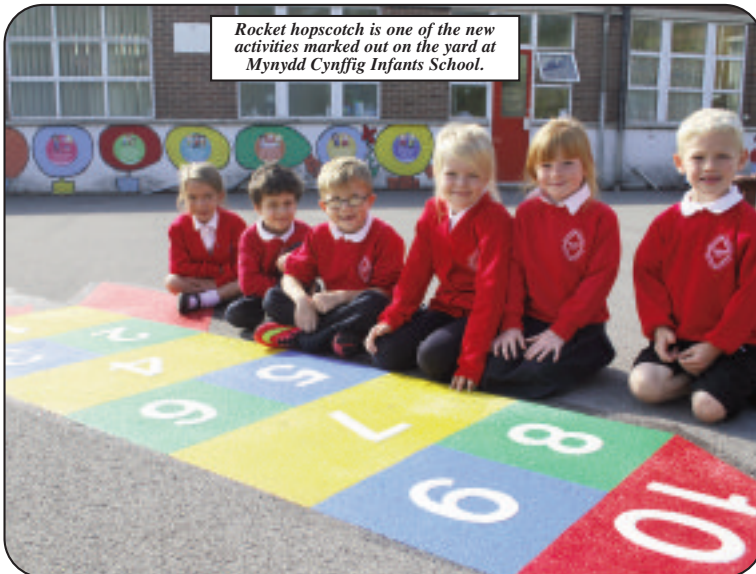
The choir will be conducted by Rhiannon Williams-Hale accompanied by Stephanie Bailey and Scott Williams on piano and organ respectively.

The soloist is soprano, Jessica Robinson and compere is Gareth Davies. The music content is varied, including a Llangollen tribute. It will be the first public performance since the choir won the male voice section at Llangollen International Music Eisteddfod and competed in the Choir of the World final.

Tickets (£5) are available from Porters Estate Agents, Nolton Street; the News Shop, Dunraven Place or choir secretary Gareth Reese (07773 170373).

FUN IN THE YARD FOR THE MYNYDD CYNFFIG INFANTS

Rocket hopscotch is one of the new activities marked out on the yard at Mynydd Cynffig Infants School.



Speakers tell of their mountain rescue work

AT Newton WI's October meeting, the guest speakers were Andrew Davies and Michael Jeffrey, dedicated members of the Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Team (formerly Bridgend Mountain Rescue).

Based in Bridgend they are a voluntary organisation who are an independent charity and self funding. There are 40 active members on call 24/7 and the teams work with police, air sea rescue helicopters, cave rescue, coast guards, RNLI, and dog searchers.

The training period is three years. This

year the organisation celebrates its 50th year.

Our Christmas fare will be held at Trinity Church Hall on November 7 (10.30am-12.30pm). There will be craft, jewellery, cake stalls etc. Come and join us for tea /coffee and pick up a bargain for Christmas.

Also in November, we are holding a social evening to commemorate World War One, with food and music of that era, music provided by Mr Mike Boyle on the keyboard.

For further information on Newton WI, call Pearl Mason on 01656 772657.

M Freeman

MYNYDD CYNFFIG Infants School now has colourful fun markings added to the school yard – including a numbered ladder, rocket hopscotch, target circle, alphabet jump and a hot potato ring.

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Children in Need offers funding to local groups

A BBC Children in Need funding surgery on October 22 in Maesteg, will give voluntary and community groups working with disadvantaged children and young people, a chance to apply for funding from the charity.

Disadvantaged children and young people include those affected by illness, distress, abuse, or neglect; any kind of disability; behavioural

or psychological difficulties and those living in poverty or situations of deprivation.

Groups will be able to apply for a 30-minute appointment with James Bird, a BBC Children in Need grants officer, to discuss a project proposal.

For further details, visit the funding news section of www.bavo.org.uk or call BAVO's Development Officer, Deb Evans, on 01656 810400.

MP'S ADVICE

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CHURCH IS CELEBRATING 100 YEARS AT TOWN CENTRE SITE



Last meeting in the FSC building, 1989.



Rev S Clark.

THE 1904/5 Welsh revival resulted in God's spirit arresting and changing people's hearts.

None more so than the Rev David Evans, who hailed from Llanibie, but who during the revival was minister at Hermon Chapel, Noltton Street, Bridgend.

In 1907, he and other members set up the Calvinistic Methodist Mission that first met in the former Drill Hall in Derwen Road on February 3, 1907.

In 1908, the new church moved to an upper room above Charles Jenkins' garage in Noltton Street and was for a short time called the Noltton Street Mission.

The Mission had 82 members, 30 hearers and a Sunday School of 120. Services were in Welsh in the morning and English in the evening.

The new church



Charles Jenkins' garage.

moved quickly to find its own premises and on July 21, 1908 agreed "that a hall be erected not to exceed £500". On February 15, 1911 the church decided to negotiate for a plot at Free School Court (FSC) that was "36 foot at the front".

A fund to finance the new building was opened on March 15, 1911 and a year later in 1912, a tender of £530 was accepted from Thomas King Davies.

The church was named the Lower Mission and the first meeting took place at Free School Court on March 3, 1914. Interestingly, the land was not bought until May

1914 with the vendor being Jacob Jenkins of Aberthaw House, Brackla St, Bridgend a timber merchant and Rev David Evans of 87 Noltton St and 14 trustees.

Rev David Evans pastored the church until he died in 1946. Numbers in the Lower Mission declined after the Second World War and in 1971 there were only 15 members.

Bridgend folk may remember Howell Evans the colporteur, who had a Christian book stall in the old indoor town market, and who worshipped at the church during this period.

On January 20, 1974 the Rev J Elwyn Davies

agreed to lead the church and his arrival, leadership and preaching led to a resurgence in the life of the church and it grew further in the 1980s under Rev Andrew Davies.

The church changed its name to Free School Court Evangelical Church and numbers grew so much to the extent that a new building seating 200 was erected in 1990, designed by R Thomas, Sully and constructed by Bridgend Building Contractors.

The church continues to meet on the site under the pastoral oversight of Stephen Clark and Andrew Hadley www.freeschoolcourt.org.uk/. It reaches out to the local community with the same saving message preached by the revivalist David Evans a century earlier.

It continues to look for opportunities to develop its work and as in 1914 is looking at land in Free School Court to grow the work further.

To celebrate its centenary at Free School Court the church is holding a special event at 3pm on October 12 at the church. Everyone is warmly invited to come and hear more about the history of the church and the reasons for its continued work and witness. There will be talks, a small exhibition and a tea.

ROBERT HATHAWAY

Howell and Mabel Evans.



Benjamin and Florence Jones.

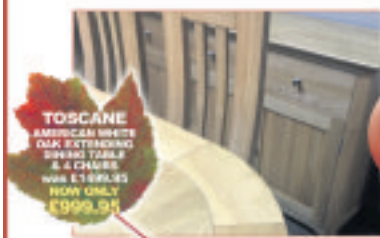


The Mission hall in 1966.



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The 306 soldiers executed by their own side

DURING the First World War, not all those who died were killed by the enemy: 306 young soldiers received the ultimate punishment for crimes such as 'desertion', 'cowardice', 'falling asleep' or 'striking an officer'.

These young men were led out, blindfolded, just as dawn was breaking, to face their own battalion and were shot.

In 2006, a blanket

pardon was issued for the men who died this way, following a petition that was supported strongly by author, Robert King.

In his new book, he portrays the military lives of the 15 Welshmen who faced this terrifying end.

• *'Shot at Dawn: The Fifteen Welshmen executed by the British Army in the First World War'*, by Robert King, was published on October 1; price £9.99, Paperback Original, 978-0-7509-5642-0.

Memories of a World War 2 German U-boat commander

ON September 30, captain David Cledlyn Jones gave a talk to Dinas Powys Proboscis Club members recounting his continuing relationship with the family of Captain Werner Von Hartenstein, captain of U-boat 156 and the International Association of Submariners, who had at sometime served in U-boat 156.

David had previously told the club how, after

torpedoing merchant ships in the Battle of the Atlantic in World War Two, Captain Werner did all he could to help survivors with food and water and directions to the nearest land-fall, all against the wishes of the German military.

This is how David met Von Hartenstein after his ship was sunk in the South Atlantic. U-156 was itself eventually sunk with a total loss of life by American bombers, while cruising on the surface, the bomb went straight down the open conning tower.

After the war, David published a book recording his 30 days in

a life boat and praising the humanitarian acts of Von Hartenstein.

He and his wife then went to Plauen, Hartstein's home town in Bavaria, for research into his background. A few years later, he had a phone call from the Naval Association of Germany, who were celebrating their centenary that year, suggesting that he arrange for the book to be translated into German.

The success of the second book led to David and his wife being invited to Bavaria to take part in the celebrations, which

included laying wreaths at the cenotaph recording the names of German submariners lost in World War Two.

At the dinner that evening, David was asked to address the 1,000 or so ex-mariners present on the reasons for writing his books, his interpreter being the 17-year-old son of an Admiral, and he was then awarded two medals in recognition of his work in promoting goodwill between the two nations.

In Hartstein's home village of Plauen, he laid a wreath at the family grave which has a plaque recording Hartstein's war service.

Here he met Wolfgang Hess, son of Rudolf Hess who flew to Britain to sue for peace.

Last August 24, family members of German submariners travelled to Swansea to see David and they laid a wreath at the memorial to lost sailors and visited Swansea sea cadets.

Every year for the last 14 years, David has returned to Bavaria, where he visits schools to recount his memories of the war, although German law now prohibits any public discussion about the war or display of medals, unless prior approval has been obtained.

He was ably assisted during his talk by projectionist Polly Davies, who was included in the vote of thanks given by Keith Terry.



Helpline looking for hedgehog hero

HEDGEHOG Helpline (Wales) is appealing to local hedgehog lovers to support them in an on-line poll to find the UK's hedgehog care heroes.

Lisa Wall, of Hedgehog Helpline (Wales) explained: "We're a 100 per cent voluntary organisation, with carers based in Cardiff, the Vale of Glamorgan, Bridgend, RCT, Caerphilly, Torfaen, Newport and Monmouthshire. "Our aim is simple: to rescue, rehabilitate and release injured, sick and orphaned hedgehogs. "Voting is easy. Simply go to

www.arkwildlife.co.uk/hedgehog Helpline (Wales)".

Commenting on the 'hedgehog hero' prize of hedgehog food to the value of £2,500, Helpline chairman Keith Jones said:

"We rely entirely on donations and fortunately the public's generosity has meant we've been able to rescue thousands of hedgehogs over our 30-year history.

"To win the prize would mean that we could help even more of Britain's favourite wild mammal."

NEWS IN BRIEF

A CHILDREN'S Halloween party will be held on Saturday, November 1, from 5pm-8pm at Highlight Park Community Centre, Stirling Road, Barry; email 'halloweenparty-1stnov@hotmail.com' for tickets.

The event will raise funds for local dance company 'Motion Control dance programme'.

Drivers needed

VOLUNTEER drivers are needed in the Barry area by Age Connect Cardiff and Vale.

Contact Nicola Rockett, co-ordinator, for further information on 01446 747654.

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First Minister opens study centre

The school choir greeted and sang for the First minister on his arrival.



Carwyn Jones with headteacher Mr Brain.



Carwyn Jones AM with head boy Scott Ennis and head girl Rebekah White.

PUPILS, staff and governors at Bryntirion Comprehensive were delighted to welcome the First Minister Carwyn Jones AM to open the newly-refurbished facilities for students at the school.

Following a funding partnership between the local authority, school and Laleston Community Council, sixth form students now have state of the art facilities to support their studies at Bryntirion.

Also, in a drive to continue to meet the national priorities of raising standards in literacy, numeracy and closing the gap between poverty and attainment the new support centre for pupils is a wonderful addition to the school.

Headteacher Nick Brain said: "Bryntirion Comprehensive School really is a school on the up! Having completed my first year as headteacher, I am

extremely pleased to report the best ever results for our students at all key stages. In particular, our GCSE results are outstanding, with 94 per cent of students achieving at least five GCSE grades at A*-C.

"In mathematics GCSE, over 75 per cent of students gained a C grade or higher. At A-Level, 43 per cent of grades achieved were A or A* with results significantly higher than local authority and Wales figures."

"These results place the school amongst the highest achieving schools in Wales."

He added: "The new facilities and superb GCSE results have encouraged more students than ever before to stay on in sixth form to continue their studies."

"With ever increasing pupil numbers in a very successful school, the future is incredibly bright at Bryntirion." SW



Carwyn Jones meets sixth form students.

HELP ON THE BUSES

A NEW initiative in Bridgend county borough aims to help people with autism and communication issues cope more easily on public transport.

The 'Orange Wallet Scheme' provides people with a free wallet that is easily recognisable by specially-trained staff at Arriva Train Wales, First Cymru, Stagecoach, Cardiff Bus, Newport Bus and Arriva Bus. It enables them to identify that an individual has difficulty in communicating and will require help.

This new communication tool is one of a range of regional projects funded by the Welsh Government as part of the All Wales Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) strategy.

Orange wallets are available, free of charge, at all libraries throughout Bridgend county borough.

SARN residents recently found out how to improve their health and wellbeing during a free-of-charge 'Add to your life' over-50s health information day in Tyncoed Surgery. Organised by Bridgend Communities First in partnership with Tyncoed Surgery, members of the community took part in free health checks, healthy cooking demonstrations, and armchair exercises. They met representatives and undertook health checks from organisations including Diabetes UK, the Stroke Association, Age Cymru, the Podiatrist Service, Halo Leisure, South Wales Police, GP Referral Service, Care and Repair, Starfish, Alzheimer's Society, South Wales Fire Service and Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations. Big Lottery-funded Community Companions befriending Scheme for over-50s.

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Cardiff Airport replies to readers...

WE would like to thank Guy Owen for the letter in The GEM on October 2 regarding Cardiff Airport assistance.

We were very pleased that he was happy with the service of the airport team, who assisted him as a disabled passenger and also helped with the retrieval of his lost luggage.

On occasion, airlines incur technical issues which impact on passengers and their luggage, but our staff work hard to manage situations as they arise and to ensure that customers are informed and treated appropriately. We look forward to welcoming him again soon.

In response to the letter from Mike Clemett, published in the same issue, Nato was an exciting project and in addition to handling heads of states, delegates and media, we also welcomed over 17,000 customers through the main terminal.

The airport team worked hard to ensure that our day-to-day flight programme was unaffected and our customers were able to take their flights as normal.

With regards to Mr Clemett's comment regarding landing fees, this has long been a myth locally which we're working hard to overcome.

Cardiff, as all airports, operates a

competitive landing fee structure which is publicly available. However, part of our discussion process with both existing and new airlines is around the frequency and volume of flights which influences the commercial agreement.

I can assure you that Cardiff Airport is extremely competitive and landing fees are certainly no barrier to airlines – it's testament to this that airlines such as CityJet and Ryanair have chosen to operate from the airport this year.

Debra Barber, Managing Director, Cardiff Airport, Rhosce.



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IS THE VALE HEADING FOR A DRAMATIC PHOTO-FINISH IN THE GENERAL ELECTION?

THE emergence of UKIP as a political force makes next year's general election more unpredictable than ever, particularly in Wales.

In May, UKIP won the European elections in the United Kingdom returning 24 MEPs – the breakdown in Wales showed a Labour win with 206,332 votes, ahead of UKIP (201,983) and the Conservatives (127,742).

PACT meetings

GIBBONSDOWN PACT. Barry Rugby Club, Merthyr Dyfan Road, Barry, October 13 at 7pm.

COWBRIDGE PACT. Cowbridge Fire Station, October 13 at 11am.

DINAS POWYS PACT. Bethesda Chapel, Fair Oaks, Dinas Powys, October 13 at 7pm.

COFFEE and chat, The Red Lion, Bonvilston, October at 11.30am.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PACT, the Windsor Public House, October 15 at 7pm.

BUTRILLS PACT, Committee Room 3 at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, October 16 at 6.30pm.

COFFEE and chat, St Brides Major Church Hall, October 18 at 10.30am.

The vote still demonstrated the shock progress UKIP has made in Wales in recent years. Political pundits used to predict a collapse in UKIP's vote come general elections – but now they are not so sure.

UKIP's most well known policies are withdrawal from the European Union and the introduction of tougher immigration measures.

But now new policies are emerging: At its conference recently, it said it wanted to scrap tax for people on the minimum wage. The party also said it was opposed to bombing in Iraq, despite polls indicating a majority of the population is in favour of action, but one that maintains the party's reputation of being distinct from the three major parties.

And on the question of funding, Nigel Farage has said that Wales gets a "rotten deal" from Westminster.

Historically, UKIP has attracted Conservative eurosceptic voters and in the marginal Vale that could also be a factor in the final outcome of next May's parliamentary election.

In the Vale in the 2010 election, the Conservatives' Alun Cairns won the seat with a vote of 20,341 from Labour's Alana Davies with 16,034. The Lib Dems polled 7,403, Plaid Cymru 2,667 and UKIP 1,529.

It is not inconceivable that UKIP could double its vote drawing on disaffected Tories – and that Labour could attract Liberal Democrat voters disillusioned by Nick Clegg's leadership and his decision to form a coalition with the Conservatives.

If that does happen, the Vale could well be looking at another absorbing photo-finish between the Conservatives and Labour come May 5, 2015.

TIM CHAPMAN

Can you ease Lester's worries?

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find suitable homes for inmates at the Bridgend rehoming centre



LESTER, a two-year old Jack Russell-cross, is a worried little boy, who takes time to get to know you – but is just gorgeous once he knows you!

We are looking for someone who already has a calm, well-adjusted dog for Lester to live with, as he is so much happier and more confident with a canine friend.

Lester really enjoys his exercise and loves long walks – this boy has bags of potential in the right home!

If you can offer Lester a home, please call us on 01656 725219, or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend; we are open 12 – 4pm every day except Mondays.

LINDA FEAGAN
(Supporter Relations Officer, Dogs Trust Bridgend)

ROB BRYDON AT FFOS LAS FOR CHARITY RACES

EACH year, Ffos Las Racecourse supports a selected charity and this year it has chosen the Tenovus cancer charity, to help raise much needed funds.

On Sunday, November 9, it will host a day of racing and entertainment, raising funds to help support people

affected by cancer across Wales.

The event will be attended by TV star and Porthcawl-born comedian Rob Brydon, who has been a patron of Tenovus for many years and who is lending his support to help make the event a success. Gates open at 11am.

To find out more, visit www.tenovus.org.uk/ffoslas.



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Parents of children in Year 5 and Year 6 are warmly invited to our

OPEN EVENING

on Wednesday 15th October from 5.30pm

Mary Immaculate is a successful and high achieving co-educational 11-16 school serving the western region of Cardiff.

We invite applications for Year 7 (starting in September 2015) from Catholic, other religious and non-religious families.

We have a waiting list for each year group and invite families to apply for a place before the deadline of Monday 31st December 2014.

In 2014 we achieved our best ever GCSE results with 98% of our students achieving 5 or more A*-C grades and 60% of students gaining 5 A*-C grades with English and Maths. We are very proud of the achievements of all of our students and are committed to continued outstanding attainment.

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The Vale's 50 Plus Forum celebrates 10th birthday!

RIGHT:
L Wallis, chairman
50 Plus Forum; the
Mayor and Mayoress
of Llantwit Major, Coun
M Mason and his wife
Bridget, watch the
Mayor of the Vale,
Coun H Hamilton and
wife Carol, cut the
Forum's birthday cake.

THE Vale's 50 Plus
Strategy Forum
celebrated its 10th
birthday at the
Memorial Hall in
Barry on
September 30.

Forum members from
across the Vale joined in,
as well as residents and
staff of the Cartrf
Porthceri care home.

A Bon Marche
fashion show was
modelled by the forum
members themselves,
and a tea dance
organised by the Sway
Dance team based at
Barry Leisure Centre.

There were also stalls
providing a wide range
of information, including
the very popular digital
inclusion stall, offering



advice on keeping up
with technology.

But the undoubted
highlight of the day was
the Tenovus Sing With
Us choir leading the

whole room in a lively
sing-along.

A spokesperson for
the forum said: "We
would like to thank the
Mayor and Mayoress of
Llantwit Major, Coun
Mike Mason and his
wife Bridget, for
supporting this event,
officers from the Vale
Council, all the stall
holders who provided
such a wide range of
information to the public
throughout the course of

the day, our Older
People's coordinator,
and our forum members
for providing us with
such a wide variety of
cakes and savouries for
our free event."

For more information
on the work of the Vale
50 Plus Strategy Forum
contact the Older
People's Coordinator,
John Porter, on 01446
450201, or email
jporter@valeofglamorga
n.gov.uk.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Guides' fair

THERE will be a craft fair this Saturday (October
11) from 10am - 2pm, at 10th Barry Guides
(opposite Romilly schools).

Scout jumble

THE 1st Dinas Powys Scout group jumble sale is
on October 18, at 1.30pm in the Scout Hall,
Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys; admission 50p.

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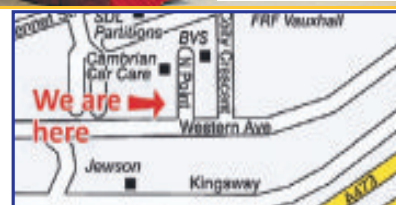
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Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE IN YOUR AREA

Toy and Trains

A TOY and train sale will be held on October 11 from 10.30am to 3pm in Penarth Leisure Centre, Andrew Road, Cogan, Penarth, CF64 2NS.

Organiser Chris Dyer said: "We now offer well in excess of 100 tables at the show, operated by more than 50 traders from all over Britain."

Telephone 01643 702757 or 07966 694579; www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk

Get Online Week

GET Online Week on October 13-19 aims to promote the benefits of digital technologies for everyday life in the Vale.

Explore Digital at Barry Library on October 17, attended by Jane Hutt AM, will also have representatives of Microsoft, AT Computers, the Welsh Government and the Vale Council, from 10am to 4pm.

Other sessions in the Vale offer free support with basic computer and literacy as follows: Penarth Library, 10am-2pm; Communities First, Skomer Road, Barry, 10am-12pm; Llantwit Major Library, 9.30am-12.30pm; Cowbridge Library, 1.30pm-4.30pm; Wenvoe Library, 10am-12pm; Dinas Powys Library, 2pm-5pm; Margaret Alexander Community Hall Centre, 1pm-3pm; Victoria Park community hall Centre, 1pm-3pm; Rhosce Library, 10am-1pm.

Contact Andreas Karpati on 01446 741706.

NEXT GREAT SHOW...
CARDIFF TOY & TRAIN SALE
SATURDAY, 11TH OCTOBER, 2014
10.30am - 3.00pm
Penarth Leisure Centre, Andrew Road, Cogan, Penarth, Cardiff CF64 2NS
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History talk

THE first meeting of the winter season of talks at Dinas Powys Local History Society will take place on Tuesday, October 14, in Kynance Hall at 7.30pm.

There will be a talk by Pamela Robson on Dial 'O' for Operator - life as a post office telephonist; followed by the AGM.

An administrative fee of £3 for non-members and £1.50 for members is payable at the door. All are welcome to attend. Enquiries to Betty Williams, on 02920 513524.

Two speakers at FocusBARRY

THE next meeting of the FocusBARRY group will be held at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, at 7pm on Wednesday, October 15 and will be open to the public.

The developer behind plans for the Pumphouse will talk about his vision for this Grade II listed building, and a manager from the recently completed Golau Caredig will talk on the new care facilities.

Major changes are to take place in the way councils provide services to the public. The meeting will conclude with a discussion on the Welsh Government proposals to merge councils.

Art society

ON Thursday, October 16, Cowbridge Art Society will be holding a life drawing session run by Cardiff artist and tutor Richard O'Connell. The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm - 9pm) and visitors and new members are welcome. For details of

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D847.

● £2,000: 289556.

● The rollover, which now stands at £2,000 was not won this week.

● £10: 478137, 599527, 473582, 284573, 512567, 623693, 368918, 719507, 661663, 455783, 781874, 138869, 310224, 276217, 520255, 749857, 669609, 156176, 857517, 183452, 411821, 751590, 261046, 274842, 436631, 868546, 782840, 436584, 803643, 431314, 946946

● £5: 864311.

634728, 367627, 457065, 854722, 194607, 485318, 221347, 687143, 351760, 222807, 856771, 818689, 836493, 868432, 181962, 231222, 513947, 354339, 165923, 414491, 155090, 197050, 415510, 370534, 485356, 522534, 222676, 204187, 697470, 932440, 565419, 537191, 599978, 254709, 741358, 196814, 720334, 397083, 342860, 911386, 663374, 335811, 474624, 605279, 339585, 208, 1367, 1823.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

£25 GEM FACEBOOK PRIZE

Our GEM Facebook winner for October 2, 2014 is:
JON DUNNING

who correctly answered last week's question in The GEM.

Our lucky winning reader, chosen at random wins a £25 prize voucher to spend with any advertiser in last week's GEM.

The competition runs every week throughout 2014 with a potential prize fund of £1,150.

Congratulations to Jon!

REMEMBER TO LIKE US AND SHARE ON FACEBOOK:
 facebook.com/glamorgangem

the society's activities, see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

Choir in concert with band

TICKETS go on sale this week for the popular RAF St Athan Voluntary Band's annual concert.

Now in its 76th year and following on from a spectacular sell-out 75th last year with the Morrissian Orpheus Choir, the band is delighted to introduce 'Noteworthy' to the Vale of Glamorgan.

One of Wales' newest and most innovative mixed choirs, Noteworthy hails from Maesteg and is directed by the highly-experienced Ryan Wood, who has chosen a programme inspired by stage, screen and best loved choral composers.

Noteworthy will join with the band for spectacular joint compositions by Karl Jenkins and John Rutter, among others. The band will perform under their director of music Alan Bourne and the programme will include highlights from their prize-winning performances at the 2014 Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales and a recent performance at the Miners' Eisteddfod in Porthcawl Pavilion.

The concert is on Saturday, October 18 at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School hall at 7.30pm. Tickets available from Chris Davies, Estate Agents, East Street, Llantwit Major, or on 01446 798527.

Autumn lunch for Arthritis Research

THE Cardiff and Vale branch of Arthritis Research UK is hosting an autumn lunch to raise funds for National Arthritis Week on Saturday, October 18, at 12 noon in St Andrews Major Golf Club, near Cadoston.

Regional fundraising manager Anna-Marie Jones says: "Arthritis holds 10 million people in the grip of excruciating pain, that's one in six of us. So, whether you have arthritis yourself, or you would like to support us for a friend or loved one, please come and join us for this delicious carvery, while supporting a worthwhile cause."

Tickets are available at £14.95 each for a carvery, choice of dessert and followed by tea/coffee, from Marilyn Fraying on 01446 408959.

Extend classes for over-50s

EXTEND in the Vale, sponsored by Age Connects Cardiff and the Vale, is running an Extend class at Rhosce Community Hall, Stewart Road, Rhosce, every Thursday (11am - 12pm).

This is a gentle movement to music class that is suitable for older people or less able people of any age.

Each class costs £4, including refreshments. Contact Shirley, Extend teacher on 01446 751077 for more details or email shirleyadc@aol.co.uk or see www.classfinder.org.uk.

Gigs Bach y Fro

MENTER Bro Morgannwg has organised a series of six Welsh language events around the Vale of Glamorgan, titled 'Gigs Bach y Fro' (Little Gigs in the Vale).

Helped by a grant from the Arts Council of Wales, Menter will be working in partnership with Clwb Ifor Bach to organise a calendar of music, poetry and comedy nights in Welsh, which will be held in Penarth, Cowbridge and Barry.

The first event will be held at the Windsor Arms, Penarth, on October 24, with Al Lewis and Kizzy Crawford performing. Tickets are £8 and fluent speakers, learners, and non-Welsh speakers are all welcome to go along.

For any further information, contact ffion@menterbromorgannwg.org or call 02920 689888.

COTTRELL PARK GOLF RESORT
 on the A48 at ST NICHOLAS
 hosts an
ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS FAIR
 in the warmth of
 'TYLERS CABIN' and the CONSERVATORY
 on
Saturday 11th October
 Refreshments available to purchase from the clubhouse.
OPEN 10am to 4pm
Entrance £1 • Children FREE

Wildlife Club for kids

RANGERS at Porthkerry Country Park are inviting wildlife enthusiasts aged eight and over to join their Wildlife Club run by the Ranger service, which meets once a month for two hours at the park's Forest Lodge.

Children will get the opportunity to learn outside the classroom about biology, identification, conservation and field skills, all as part of the Wildlife Trust's Wildlife Watch scheme.

The first meeting back is Saturday, October 25, from 10am to 12pm and costs £2 per child.

For further information, parents should call 01446 733589 or email mlstewart@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Llancarfan talk

THE Llancarfan Ladies Tuesday Club will meet at the village hall on Tuesday, October 21 at 7.45pm when restorers and preservers, Jane Rutherford and Ann Ballantyne will give a talk with slides about their painstaking work of restoring paintings and other work, including St Cadoc's at Llancarfan. This meeting is open to the public and there will be refreshments and a raffle.

The Welsh Cook Book - REVIEW

WELSH cooking traditions go back centuries: beef and dairy cattle are raised widely; sheep farming is extensive in the country and lamb is the meat traditionally associated with Welsh cooking, particularly in dishes such as roast lamb with fresh mint sauce.

The leek, as something of the nation's 'national' vegetable, also features prominently. Welsh cooking often includes seafood, especially close to the coast, where

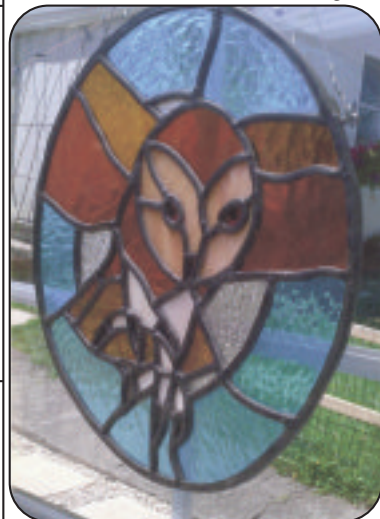
fishing culture is strong and fisheries are common.

In this, the quintessential Welsh cook book, the Right Honourable Lady Llanover, following a meeting with 'the Welsh hermit of the Cell of St Gover', explores traditional Welsh cuisine from the turn of the century, with an excellent range of homemade recipes such as south Wales salmon, Welsh mutton chops, Welsh leek broth and Welsh cakes.

This quaint little paperback book of 192 pages with 40 illustrations is published by Amberley Publishing at £8.99.

BRIAN LEE

Stained glass course in Sully



A STAINED glass course runs at Sully Old School Hall from 7pm-9pm every Monday.

Telephone Eugene on 02920 345197 or 07813280128 for details, or turn up on the night.

Fincher's take on Gone Girl is acerbic study of relationships

ONE of cinema's most uncompromising voices, David Fincher, has a reputation for being a director who knows what he wants.

Critically acclaimed, he has spent recent years adapting the likes of *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* and *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*, and his latest sees him tackle Gillian Flynn's bestseller *Gone Girl*.

Ben Affleck plays Nick, a man who returns home to find his wife Amy (Rosamund Pike) kidnapped, with a fear that she has been murdered. Appealing for witnesses to come forward, Nick is thrust into the public eye, and with it comes the spotlight that shines a little too brightly on Nick, as his innocence is questioned...

Gone Girl, much like

last month's *Before I Go To Sleep*, is adapted from a best-selling novel, yet another example of the literary world encroaching onto the filmic world, but its set-up screams big screen adaptation, given the subject matter of missing persons, secrets being unlocked and people not being who you think they are.

The choice of David Fincher as a director is inspired. Fincher is known for his cold and scalpel-sharp view of the world – and these elements, including a fine cast, coalesce into something gripping, haunting and incredibly acerbic.

While on the surface it's a film that ticks the 'crime' genre box, once the film delves deeper into the subject matter, you discover it's a story of love turned sour, of how we adapt our behaviour to suit both our needs and the needs

of other people and how perceptions and impressions, even from afar, can influence people's thinking.

Both Fincher and Affleck have described it as a date movie, but it would require a pretty strong pair to come out of this film thinking pursuing a relationship would be the best thing to do; arguably it's an anti-date movie, a film that takes a close look at the minutiae of a couple and scrapes away at it.

Fincher's camera is as ever coldly calculating and ruthlessly efficient, as we crisscross from the aftermath of Amy's disappearance to the stages of her relationship with Nick, seeing how little grace moments (a storm of sugar, the first kiss) give way to passive aggressive behaviour and downright anger as their romantic idyll is shattered slowly and surely, by both circumstance and

behaviour. While Fincher ensures you never avert your eyes from this romantic car crash, it's teamed with a story that slowly grips and enthralls, as we learn more about Amy's disappearance and watch as Nick's role appears to move from upset husband to possible killer.

Gillian Flynn, adapting from her own book, does a superb job of trimming off the superfluous edges of her source material and cutting to the real meat of the story.

What is satisfying, as someone who hasn't read the book, is how the film plays much deeper than the story suggests, Flynn highlighting how we transform ourselves depending on either the needs of ourselves or other people; how well do we really know someone, is what attracts us to someone who they

are or what we want them to be?

It's embellished with some wonderful performances – Ben Affleck, as the weary, put-upon Nick, makes him feel like a real and rounded character, hinting that underneath his everyman persona there is a slightly darker hue, while Rosamund Pike delivers what is easily her best performance to date, showing an incredible range as Amy goes from victim to possible instigator, Pike's performance shifting effortlessly through the gears.

In support, Carrie Coon is wonderful as Nick's twin sister, Kim Dickens and Patrick Fugit as the lawmen (and women) tasked with solving the case intersect a punch of wit along with exposition, while small but pivotal turns from Neil Patrick Harris, Tyler Perry and Scoot McNairy are pitch perfect.

It isn't flawless, as even though the film manages to ride out the aftermath of the big reveal, it does flounder towards a conclusion that, although playing realistically, perhaps doesn't offer a definitive full stop, while there are a few plot holes that linger, but these

grumbles aside, *Gone Girl* still makes for a difficult, but tremendously engaging, viewing experience, a page turner brought to vivid life.

VERDICT: A harsh look at relationships and how we present ourselves, with a healthy dose of thriller to boot, *Gone Girl* is a wonderful piece of filmmaking

from David Fincher. Abrasive and daring, Gillian Flynn's smart adaptation of her own material, coupled with strong performances, make this a darkly entertaining slice of cinema. *Recommended.*
SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The War of the Roses* (1991), *Zodiac* (2007).



by GARETH JAMIESON
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Eileen (93) revisits Nazi horror camp



Eileen Younghusband and Barry RAF Association at Fort Breendonk.

ON the day of the Scottish Referendum, 93-year-old local resident Eileen Younghusband, a World War Two Filter Room Officer, revisited Fort Breendonk in Belgium.

She was reliving the memories of serving at the fort three days after the end of the war, as a young female RAF officer of 25.

Eileen was able to speak several languages, so was given the task of taking parties of servicemen into the prison, so that the barbaric condition prisoners of war were subjected to would never be forgotten.

The fort had been used as a holding camp for Jews, prior to being sent to Auschwitz. Subsequently it became a concentration camp.

The conditions there were inhumane and Eileen recounted some of those experiences as she went around the fort with a group from the Barry RAF Association during a stay close by at Steenberg in Holland.

In a surprise visit, Eileen was able to meet the Fort Breendonk Director and learned that the Director already had her book which captured some of those moments of days at the prison, 'One Woman's War'.

As she went around the fort, the sights and smells came back to her. In one cell, the shackles which secured the prisoners were clearly evident. A picture of Christ was

marked on the wall of one cell, drawn with that person's own blood.

Many prisoners did not leave the fort and were executed at the rear. The 10 execution posts still remain with the bullet holes to remind everyone of the macabre deeds of those days gone by.

The remains of three gallows was also a stark reminder to fort visitors of the gruesome deeds that went on. A plaque on the wall nearby lists the names of those executed during those dark days.

The torture room provided a visual memory of the suffering that took place so many years ago; also the yard where prisoners were forced to pass their days doing hard labour.

The striking picture of a dwarf who was imprisoned is a stark reminder that those who were different were targeted by the Nazis.

For Eileen Younghusband, this was a moving visit of a time in her young life when she had to face the now imprisoned fort guards, who then became the inmates, at the end of the war.

She recounted being spat upon during those daily trips to the fort, to show people around. For Eileen the visit was a poignant reminder of an episode in her young life so many years ago – but one that has still left its mark.

GEOFF HORTON,
(Chairman and Hon Welfare Officer, Barry RAF Association)

U3A group steps back in time at Roman fortress



THE Sully U3A's local history group recently spent a very pleasant afternoon visiting Caerleon – to see the remains of the Roman fortress, Isca.

Wales was the most westerly point of the Roman Empire and Caerleon was one of only three permanent fortresses.

The group visited the

remains of the amphitheatre, walked along the surviving Roman wall, which still stands in places up to 12 feet, then visited the Prsgy Field to see the only Roman barracks visible in Europe, together with the public latrines and ovens.

They then visited the Legionary Museum to see its collection of artefacts, the reconstruction of the interior of a Roman barracks and the sights,

sounds and smells of the reconstructed Roman garden. Lastly, they visited the Roman baths, where the lighting effects give the appearance of people swimming in the baths.

The local history section is one of many interest groups. Sully U3A meets on the second Thursday of the month at 2pm in The Old School, Sully and new members are always welcome.

Susan Colman

Christmas Party Guide

The Vale and Bridgend offer great choice for your Christmas party

THAT time of year is coming closer – the season of parties and events to mark the festive season.

While the office or

workplace party can be the highlight of the year, it can also be a disaster, unless it is held at the right venue, with good food.

Luckily, in this area, we are blessed with a wonderful

choice of restaurants, pubs and hotels which cater for Christmas parties to suit groups of varying sizes.

There are lots of places which offer traditional fare – turkey and Christmas pudding –

which remain as popular as ever.

But for those looking for something a bit more exotic, many venues now offer a new twist on the basic menu with other options designed to cater for a more sophisticated

palate. But whichever meal you prefer, the important thing is that top quality foodstuffs are used and that they are properly cooked and beautifully presented.

The ambience at Christmas events is also crucial – roaring log fires and crackers may be a bit of a cliché but it's what most people expect. Many hotels and restaurants spend a lot of money on really top class decorations which are a world away from the tinsel and tack of yesteryear.

A room beautifully decorated in swags of greenery, coloured berries and subtly lit with candlelight is probably the finest setting for celebrating the most important event in the calendar.

So, with good food, fine wines and the right setting, the only other ingredient necessary for a great night out is the company.

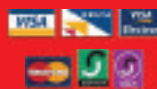
People you work with all year suddenly look different when they are dressed up in a bit of bling and glitz.

Lots of romances have begun at the works' Christmas do and for the younger, unattached staff members, that's an exciting possibility.
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17)

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Christmas Party Guide



Be 'Drink Aware' this Christmas

CHRISTMAS parties – whether an office do or a social event – are there to be enjoyed, but careful planning can make sure there are no negative consequences after the event!

The drink awareness charity, Drinkaware (www.drinkaware.co.uk) has a number of tips designed to get revellers to drink responsibly and make the most of the office party.

The charity quotes the example of a 36-year-old manager of a computer company. In the past he's dreaded having to organise his firm's annual bash.

He said: "Some of my co-directors have been in business since the 1970s, when all-day drinking was considered

the point of any Christmas party. "They used to order constant rounds and everyone else had to keep up. By about seven o'clock, we all felt completely trashed."

After too many hungover telephone calls to restaurants apologising for the previous night's behaviour (and trying to locate lost coats and handbags), Roger decided to ring the changes.

He said: "These days I try and make sure that there's plenty of mineral water available on the tables for everyone, and that people don't feel pressured to order alcohol."

"Most staff still enjoy a drink, but it does help calm everything down."

The good news is that soft drinks are no

longer seen as an unsophisticated option. With upmarket organic lemonade and cola, plus a wide range of alcohol-free cocktails increasingly available, taking a breather from the wine, beer or spirits does not have to be boring.

Alternating alcohol with softer options helps you make the most of the night ahead. Non-alcoholic drinks keep you hydrated and ensure that you are still partying when others have long since flaked out.

He added: "One of the things I've realised is that pacing yourself is important."

"If you slow down with the wine, you get to enjoy a proper chat with people you might not have really spoken to all year."

PARTY CHOICE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16)

Older colleagues will settle for the easy camaraderie which exists between people who know each other very well and have mutual respect.

But apart from workplace parties, there are also lots of Christmas get-togethers staged by organisations – ranging from choirs, art societies, WI's, charity fundraisers and sporting groups – in fact any organisation which brings people together. Most organise a Christmas

event which gives members, who perhaps only see each other once a week, a chance to enjoy each other's company in more relaxing circumstances.

Yes, there's plenty to be said for the Christmas party. Just make sure you ensure that yours is as good as it can be by hiring the right venue for you and your group – whether it be a cosy country inn or a grand hotel where everyone can really dress up.

The choice is yours – and it's a big one!

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Commemorating the centenary of the First World War WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Refugees from 'plucky little Belgium' arrive in Porthcawl



The Rest, Porthcawl.

AT 8.10pm on October 9, 1914, the train bringing the first 29 Belgian refugees to Porthcawl pulled into the railway station to enthusiastic cheers.

In early September, Porthcawl, as with many councils in the country, had offered a home to the refugees as soon as their plight was made known.

Fleeing the advance of the German Army through Belgium, 250,000 refugees sought refuge in Britain during the war, with approximately 6,000 coming to Wales.

Many towns and villages wanted to play their part in the war effort and helping 'plucky little Belgium' fulfilled that desire. Further, David Lloyd George had referred to Belgium in a speech, promoting the 'rights of little five-foot nations' which found a special resonance with the Welsh people.

The first refugees to arrive in Wales arrived in Cardiff on September 2. By the middle of December, nearly 4,500 had been received and a c c o m m o d a t e d throughout the

principality. By the end of October, the 17 males, 19 females and 20 children (56 refugees in total) who had arrived in Porthcawl were temporarily billeted throughout the town in 10 homes.

On October 26, the Porthcawl Rest Home received 29 male Belgian refugees, paid for by Pentyrch and Cardiff refugee funds.

These men sought refuge in Britain as a result of the Belgian government encouraging men to leave Belgium to avoid possibly working for their German captors; 26 of these men were later transferred to the Southerndown Rest Home the following January, while one Peter Sprengel, from Ghent, remained to look after the boiler and Henri Van Nieuwenhuzze and Charles van Vaerenbergh from Sint-Andries, near Bruges, returned home to join the Belgian Army.

Within a month, offers to house the original 56 Porthcawl town refugees in their own furnished accommodation were sought from local residents. A local Belgian Refugee Committee was set up to manage their welfare and

the much-needed refugee fund.

A variety of charity events, plus agreed weekly subscriptions, helped to raise the money needed to support the refugees in accommodation, food, clothing and transport.

The children were placed in local schools, the refugees were welcomed at Waddle's Hall Catholic Church, the local newspapers ran a weekly Flemish column and the men were soon to be found employment.

'Messrs Jennings & Co, the well known timber merchants, have very kindly placed a workshop at the committee's disposal and have, also, given a quantity of wood for six cabinet makers to commence work at an early date.' (Porthcawl News' October 1914.)

The Refugee Committee then made an appeal for tools for the workshop. The cabinets, bureaux, sideboards, etc, that were crafted were then auctioned off and the money raised was also used for the benefit of the refugees.

In essence, by September 1915 the refugees were becoming self-sufficient. So



Southerndown.

successful was the employment scheme in Porthcawl that the authorities praised the town, stating that 'Porthcawl was the only place in the Kingdom that had a self-supporting scheme.' (Porthcawl News' March 1915.)

One of their most memorable creations, which have since become a lasting legacy to their craftsmanship, are the choir stalls at All Saints' Church. Later in the 1920s, remembrance plaques to the fallen were to be added.

For the rest of the war, the refugees integrated seamlessly into Porthcawl life, while striving to maintain their own culture.

The refugees are reported in the local newspaper as leaving in February 1919.

The rest of the news for October, reported in the press, followed in the wake of the Belgian refugees' arrival. Yet it is nonetheless interesting to modern day readers.

The Pavilion states that having found it

difficult to 'obtain good companies' Mr G Darrell, manager had purchased an 'electrical plant, together with appliances, for the projection of high-class pictures.' (Porthcawl News' October 1914.) Belgian refugees enjoyed free entry to the Pavilion throughout the war.

Recruitment throughout the Bridgend area was so successful that it was decided to appoint a paid recruiting officer. The man appointed was a Lieutenant J German of the 5th Battalion, Welsh Regiment. Alongside his appointment came the concern over billeting.

The high numbers of men enlisting was beginning to impinge on the hospitality of the residents of Porthcawl once more, leading to a weekly rate of 17/6d per soldier being offered to anyone willing to cater for the men.

Further, a musketry camp was held at Newton for 200 men who were 'to stay until they

were proficient.'

On Friday, October 23, Private Wally Mertz, Cycle Corps, left for the front. Having survived Gallipoli in August 1915, 2nd Lieutenant Walter Mertz, now of the Royal Engineers, was killed in 1916. While seeking billets for his men in Northampton, his motorbike collided with a police car. Walter Mertz was of German descent.

Join me next month, and read how Porthcawl became the recruiting ground for the Cardiff City Battalion!

CERI JOSEPH, Porthcawl Museum. October 4 - 12 is 'The Welsh Museums Festival Week.'

Porthcawl Museum is presenting a special 'Belgian Refugee Exhibition' to commemorate the 100 years, to the week, that the town first received its Belgian refugees.

For more information, visit our website porthcawlandthe greatwar.com



All Saints' Church.



Lt Walter Mertz.



The choir stalls in All Saints' Church, which were made by Belgian refugees.

Pupils told 'Keep up the good work'

RIGHT: First Minister Carwyn Jones is pictured at Coychurch Primary School.



PUPILS and staff at Coychurch Primary School have been congratulated by Bridgend AM and First Minister Carwyn Jones on their recent inspection success.

Estyn rated the school's current performance as 'good' and the school's prospects for improvement were also judged as being 'good.'

Mr Jones was welcomed to the

school by enthusiastic youngsters, who were told to "keep up the good work!"

Estyn inspectors found that Coychurch pupils are making good progress in their learning, with outcomes at the end of key stage 2 that are above expectations, while pupils were praised for being well motivated and polite. The school is also rated as an 'inclusive community' with positive relationships between pupils and staff.

The First Minister presented

certificates to the school's two new 'super ambassadors' Megan Williams and Adela Henderson, who have been voted by their classmates to represent them in the initiative that has been set up by the Children's Commissioner for Wales, Keith Towler.

The scheme empowers youngsters to gather opinions from fellow pupils on a wide range of issues to help ensure that children and young people in Wales enjoy safe and happy lives.

New beginners' band formed in Ogmores Valley

THE Ogmores Valley Silver Band, in association with the Cory Academy, has launched a new beginners' band.

You may have seen the Ogmores Silver Band throughout the county over the summer, supporting charity events and fetes all, and if not, you'll definitely see us over the festive period in town.

The band has teamed up with the Cory Band, to provide a new learners' class at the bandroom every Wednesday from 5.30pm until 6pm.

Parents and children are all welcome to learn, as instruments will be provided and tutor Tom

Hutchinson, principal cornet player for Cory, will be taking the classes.

We are always looking for players, new or old to join the band and have fun. These new classes support players in the county who do not wish to compete.

Ogmores band is now a national second section band and rehearse on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Ogmores Valley Youth band runs every Wednesday (6pm-7pm) and Ogmores Valley Beginners' Band runs on Wednesday (5.30pm-6pm). For more information, visit www.ogmoreband.co.uk, or telephone Alice on 07929 358 001.

Alice Jones

Quiz League posers

HERE are your weekly questions:

1. Which religious order was founded by a monk who has given his name to a liqueur still made in a French Abbey?
2. Which scientist discovered the laws of heredity after conducting experiments with peas?

3. How many people are in a hurling team?
4. What is the administrative centre for the county of Cornwall?

A Rudge (for Quiz League)

Answers:
1. Benedictine.
2. Gregor Mendel.
3. 15.
4. Truro.

Live a life of adventure

WITH MARIA LEIJERSTAM



Double world record holder Maria Leijerstam from the Vale, founder of the Burn Series of multisport events and qualified personal trainer, can inspire you with a weekly column on simple family sporting adventures in the beautiful countryside of south Wales.

LAST weekend saw Cosmeston Lake as the focal point for a day of multisport training. The

country park, situated between Penarth and Sully, is now a designated Local Nature Reserve and was once a commercial limestone quarry between 1880 and 1970.

Many local families turned up to experience a morning of kayaking on the beautiful lake, which is also home to many swans and ducks. Sensibly, a number of

families came in wet suits in order to avoid the imminent wet bottom scenario. The Barry Scout group was also out in force enjoying the perfectly calm conditions to experience kayaking for the first time.

Following a morning of kayaking, I moved on to hosting a multisport training session in preparation for the upcoming Mini Burn at Margam Park on October 11, and the Cardiff Burn at Llandaff Rowing Club

on October 26.

Participants from as far afield as Coventry arrived and we began with an hour of orienteering training, both theory and practical, using the permanent orienteering course that has been set up around the Park by the South Wales Orienteering Club. The use of maps, both Ordnance Survey and orienteering maps were new to most of them, as well as the use of the compass, but all progressed quickly and managed to find the check points.

Then we headed back to the lake for a 90 minute introduction to the sit-on-top kayaking course that allowed the participants to practice all strokes and to become used to the different positions in the kayak. We used both single and double kayaks for this session.

Ollie, our only junior on the course, seemed more interested in swimming the length of Cosmeston, so father Les had his work cut out trying to keep a check on his whereabouts.

The real fun then began as we moved on to practicing transition training, which meant Les and Ollie amongst others, had to practise transition from bike to kayak to run to kayak and

back to bike again as quickly as possible. Due to the excitement, we had a few splashes in the water as teams tried their luck at getting in and out of the kayak as quickly as possible at the same time.

Moving at a fast pace we then spend 20 minutes learning about emergency bike repairs. There is nothing worse than facing a flat tyre during a race and not knowing how to fix it.

As if that wasn't enough, we concluded the day with a practice Burn event around Cosmeston Park. It followed roughly the same order as a Burn event beginning with a run, then a kayak and then a bike orienteering phase. We even used the electronic training equipment so participants could get used to the check point controls and timing chips.

After a multisport day everyone was exhausted but pleased with their progress and are now raring to take part in the upcoming Mini Burn and Cardiff Burn events.

Murphy, our canine marshal, as well as handler Chris Daw, were also out offering a hand to run the day. If you're keen to become involved in the Burn Series then do check out the website at www.burnseries.co.uk

Mew the kitten was dumped by the roadside

Cats Protection, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9UJ
Tel: 01656 726621 • Fax: 01656 722012
Email: bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk

MEW is a 12-week-old black female kitten who was admitted to us after a keen-eyed motorist spotted a driver parked up and acting suspiciously in Nantymoel.

She went to investigate after the driver left and found little Mew had been dumped in a box. She was very thin and in poor condition.

She had to be admitted to the vets for IV fluids and treatment. She was lifeless in the first few days with us, just sitting and cuddling her teddy bear.

A week of TLC later, she is a completely different kitten, bright eyed and full of mischief. Sadly, this isn't a unique case. We are frequently contacted about cats and kittens which have been found dumped in boxes or simply abandoned and left to roam by their owners.

To date this year, we have rehomed over 1,040 cats and kittens. Despite this, we have 173 cats and kittens, in our care and 273 waiting to come in for rehoming.

Some of these cats have come into our care for genuine reasons outside of people's control. On the other hand, a lot of them are simply unwanted cats and kittens, where the need for rehoming could have been avoided by responsible ownership.

Sue Dobbs, Centre Manager



Get Back on Track and gain fresh skills for a new start!

A NEW programme of Get Back on Track courses has been launched across the Vale of Glamorgan.

The FREE courses have been provided by the Vale Adult Education Service in partnership with a wide range of providers including libraries, Jobcentre plus, Careers Wales, Flying Start, Communities First and the Vale Volunteer Bureau.

The new prospectus is now available with a wide range of short courses and workshops designed to help people get Back on Track and gain useful skills for a new start.

Many people are looking to make some changes in their lives and find a new job. All Job

searches start with a computer and now help is available for anyone looking for some help with job search, registering for universal job match and using internet and emails.

Workclubs are available throughout the Vale, along with computer skills workshops to learn basic ICT skills that you will need in almost any workplace, or progress to level 1 in Word, Excel and Powerpoint. You can gain an Agored, Clait or even an ECDL qualification.

Workshops are available with help and advice on producing good CVs and covering letters that will attract the attention of prospective employers. Interview Skills workshops running at both Barry and Penarth Jobcentres help prepare you for that all

important interview

Whether you are looking for employment or volunteering opportunities, short preparing for the workplace courses help prepare you for what to expect and give you some confidence.

There are short courses in British Sign Language and lip reading, as well as communication and working with others; and a range of First Steps courses to help you consider opportunities. Subjects include creative textiles, upcycling furniture and gardening.

Reading, writing and maths classes at all levels are available at the Open Learning Centre.

For more information, pick up a copy of the new prospectus; or call line at www.gbotfree.org or call Palmerston centre 01446 733762.

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Homes & Gardens

A favourite room – what does it mean to you?

EVERYONE has a favourite part of their home – and celebrities are no different. Here, stars tell **GABRIELLE FAGAN** about the rooms they feel most relaxed and happy in.

Marco Pierre White, 52, celebrity chef,

restaurateur and television personality:

"I like all areas of my home but, of course, I spend most of my time in the kitchen, which is set up to the standard of a professional one.

"I don't have a dishwasher; instead, I wash everything in an old Belfast sink as I was taught to do as a trainee years ago.

"My pride and joy are two black three-oven AGA Total Control cookers. It means I have six ovens, four solid tops and lots of space – you can't ask for more."

Jane Seymour, 62, actress and artist:

"My art studio at my beach-side home in Malibu, California. It's a really personal, really private place and very inspirational to me.

"It overlooks a koi pond with a waterfall and a rose garden and it's a quiet spot with beautiful light.

"I can lose track of time there, forget my worries and become totally absorbed when I'm designing furniture, lamps, jewellery and fabrics or painting."

Alan Titchmarsh, 64, celebrity gardener, writer and presenter:

"My study is in a converted barn in the garden with a large window overlooking a wildlife pond, so I can gaze out at ducks and moorhens. It's totally relaxing and my favourite spot."

George Lamb, 24, presenter:

"I live in virtually an open-plan space in my Hackney home. It's a part-converted factory and I'm on one floor with around 1,200 square feet, which is amazing.

"It's bohemian, with exposed brick walls and the original massive red firehoses and industrial steel pipework visible in the ceiling, and a huge skylight so it's flooded with light."

Lisa Snowden, 41, TV presenter and radio DJ:

"I love cooking and I recently got my dream kitchen, a Smallbone walnut and silver kitchen, with mirror panels on the kickboards which gives an illusion that the room is larger, and granite work surfaces.

"There are dark wood floors throughout the house but the kitchen has a heated tiled floor, a treat for the toes. I practically live in that room as

it's such a joy to be in."

Janet Ellis, 58, TV presenter and actress:

"My kitchen is my favourite, because it runs from the front of the house to the back, and at each end the windows look out on to gardens.

"It has fitted cream Ikea kitchen units, stainless steel worktops and a huge oven. There's a large central island and running on from that, a dining table which seats 12.

"The whole room is serene in cream shades, and an oasis compared to rest of the house, which is filled with colour and lots of art. On guard by the kitchen door is a life-size model of a Staffordshire Bull Terrier."

Danny Wallace, 37, writer, actor and radio presenter:

"My attic study, where I feel relaxed and in charge and do all my writing. The light is brilliant and the walls are white, apart from one wall papered with wood effect wallpaper, where my desk is," he says.

"There are loads of bookshelves groaning with books and, of course, being a man's retreat, a sofa and a large TV.

"In one corner is a vintage 1940s school desk, which I bought for my four-year-old son, Elliot. He's writing his own book about Big Ben, which he adores for some reason."

Kirsty Gallacher, 37, Scottish TV presenter:

"My kitchen dining area is a playroom, homework area and social zone, with glass doors which lead onto the garden.

"We have a three-storey townhouse so the bottom floor is the hub of the house, with my sons, who are aged seven and three, and the dog running in out from the garden, especially in the summer.

"On the patio we have a hen house, a reminder of the time when we used to have hens and they came in and out of the house too. There's a country atmosphere to this room and I still have hen ornaments."

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If your timber roofline is basically in good shape, you can save money by opting for an over cap. This involves fitting a 9mm fascia board on top of the original timbers.

Once the PVC is overlaid the wood, the timbers are shielded from the elements. As the board is only over capped on the front and bottom any damp can still dry out in through the top and back.

However, if you've left it a little longer and the timbers are rotten, then the only option is a full replacement. This involves removing all of the old fascia boards and soffits and replacing them with PVC-U ones that are usually 16-25mm thick.

Replacement is also likely to mean taking off the bottom few layers of tiles or slates to fit the boards, as the fascias butt the roof under the eaves.

As you can imagine, replacement is more time consuming and as a consequence, the costs of labour and materials increase. The advantage of a full installation is that it is thorough. The simple act of lifting the tiles, for example, can help uncover rotten battens or roofing felt.

Before carrying out any installation, a Securahome's estimator will carry out a full inspection of existing timbers to assess the best option to offer lasting value for you and your home.

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Vale anti-fracking group plans protest march to Senedd

CAMPAIGNERS in the Vale who are opposed to fracking will be marching from Dyffryn to The Senedd this Saturday, October 11, as part of 'Global Frackdown Day'.

Global Frackdown is a day of action against fracking and unconventional gas exploration taking place across the world.

Friends of The Earth Cymru and Frack Free Wales are organising a lobby and protest at The Senedd at 12pm. Speakers include Bethan Jenkins, Plaid Cymru AM, and Pippa Bartolotti, Leader of the Welsh Green Party.

Local residents from 'The Vale Says No' anti-fracking group will be making a "symbolic journey" from Dyffryn, the nearest site in the Vale given planning permission to test drill, to the Senedd to take part.

A spokesperson for Vale Says No said: "Dyffryn is one of three sites given permission for test drilling in the Vale.

"A token of turf from this site and from the other sites at Llandow and Llantrithyd will be carried on the walk and

presented at the Senedd as a petition from the land itself, asking that it remains unharmed by the action of fracking for shale gas".

The 10-mile walk will leave the Dyffryn site at 8am, and go via Barry, Sully and Penarth – crossing the barrage to Cardiff Bay.

The anticipated arrival time at the Barrage is 11.30am, where more people are expected to

join in. A spokesperson said: "Supporters are welcome to join the walk at its start, along the route, or meet up at the barrage. Personal responsibility for safety and navigation must be accepted. The section to the barrage is not a guided walk".

Visit *The Vale Says No* and *The Global Frackdown* pages on Facebook for more information.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pen-y-Fai concert

A CHARITY concert in aid of refurbishment of the Pen-y-Fai Scout and Guide hall will be held this Saturday (October 11) with local band Mid Life Crisis from 7pm till 12am. Raffle and disco.

Tickets £3 per person or £5 per couple, available on the night or from Sandra's shop The Selection Box, in Treherne Drive in Pen-y-Fai.

Toys and trains

A TOY and Train fair will be held at Penarth Leisure Centre on Saturday, October 11 at 10.30am until 3pm. Cadroxton Youth

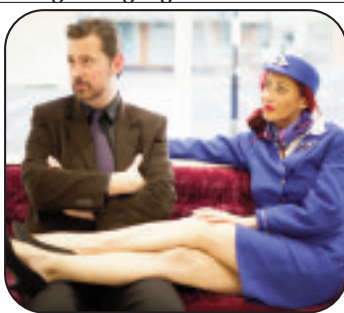
Project will be fundraising at the event.

Proceeds will help local causes. For more information, call Rita on 01446 621829.

Valeways guided walks BIRTHDAY Walk this Sunday, October 12, at 2pm from Portobello House car park, Ogmere.

Autumn woods and river walk, from St Peter's Church, Mill Road, Dinas Powys Sunday, October 12 at 2pm.

Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Cosmeston Country Park on Wednesday, October 15 at 10.30am outside the Visitor Centre.



ABOVE: Brian Smith (Bernard) and Amanda Matthews (Gabriella).

Brian's back – as Bernard!

BRIAN SMITH, a seasoned player with Everyman Theatre, was recently seen playing Edmund Blackadder at Sophia Gardens in Blackadder 2, where he received great acclaim from audiences of over 3,000 per night.

He now returns to PODS after several years, to take on the role of Bernard – a Persian bachelor in *BOEING BOEING*, a strict set of timetables for three air hostesses all from different countries, working for different airlines. His timing must be impeccable, one little slip and the girls might meet each other!

BOEING BOEING is

on Wednesday, October 15-18 from 7.30pm at the Paget Rooms Penarth.

Tickets are available from Brian Gardener on 02920 712260; e-mail ticketsecretary@pods-penarth.org or purchase online at www.pods.ticketsource.co.uk.

Walk for hospice

GEORGE THOMAS Hospice Care is seeking walkers for the charity's Walk For Hope taking place this Sunday, October 12, in Bute Park, Cardiff.

It starts at 10am from the Temple of Peace and Health in Cathays Park.

Further information and registration forms can be obtained from George Thomas Hospice Care at Tŷ George Thomas, Whitechurch Hospital Grounds, Park Road, Whitechurch, Cardiff, telephone 02920 524150, or email: info@gthc.org.uk.

RECRUIT READY TO COOK UP A STORM AT SEA!

RIGHT: Trainee chef Tom Edwards could soon be cooking for 1,000 Navy 'diners'.

AN 18-year-old Royal Navy recruit from Barry has completed the first stage of his naval training and is now on course for a career at sea.

Trainee chef Tom Edwards arrived at the gates of HMS Raleigh in Cornwall in June 2014.

He has now undergone 10 weeks of intensive training designed to teach recruits the basic skills required by all sailors.

The course culminates with the



passing-out-parade attended by families and friends. The former pupil of Barry Comprehensive said: "I joined the Royal Navy to serve my country and travel the world.

"I'm proud to have completed the course. I enjoyed the physical elements the most and also meeting new and interesting people.

"It has been one of the best times of my life and I would recommend it to anyone."

With the first phase of this training complete, Tom will transfer to the Defence Maritime Logistics School, which

is also based at HMS Raleigh. During a 26-week course he will learn how to cook tasty meals for hundreds of people as well as fine dining cuisine.

He will also learn about food hygiene, health and safety, catering accountancy and stock control.

"Once fully qualified Tom will join a team who make sure the ship's company receive three nutritious meals a day.

He could be cooking for up to 1,000 people, depending on the class of ship he is assigned to," a spokeswoman said.

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Chris & Michelle, owners of twenty 12 commented: "Having worked in the Vale with loyal customers, we feel it would be a nice gesture to offer this chance to a deserving home. We felt that The GEM readers would be the perfect people to nominate someone they know!"

All you have to do is email gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk telling us in no more than 200 words why you think your nomination deserves the help.

Normal competition rules apply. Judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Closing date: 30th October 2014

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8 WINDOWS ANY SIZE, MAX 2 OPENERS IN WHITE UPVC	£4442	£123.38	£4442
9 WINDOWS ANY SIZE, MAX 2 OPENERS IN WHITE UPVC	£5041	£140.02	£5041
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Speaker tells of Mark Twain's passage to India



Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards; Lord Strathcarron, Anne Morgan and Derek Morgan.



Steve Page, Marjorie Page, Joyce Chatterton, Dorothy Hurley and Malcolm Hurley.



Susan Jenkins, Dr Peter Beck and Desna Wheeler.



Roderick McGregor, Fiona MacGregor, Lord Strathcarron, Katherine Macphail and Michael Macphail.



Kate Thomas, Lord Strathcarron and Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards.



John Weber, Pam Williams and Ian Kelsall.

MEMBERS of the South Wales branch of the English Speaking Union were regaled at their autumn lunch by guest speaker, Lord Strathcarron, who gave a fascinating insight into Mark Twain's journey through India in 1896.

The American author had built up a debt totalling £5 million in today's money and had decided to do the honourable thing and repay his debtors from the proceeds of writing about his round the world trip.

Lord Strathcarron had travelled in the footsteps of Mark Twain and his talk was as informative, sagacious and witty as the author himself, and included many interjections by the recorded voice of the humourist.

The next branch event is the traditional Christmas carols and supper at Howell's School on December 2. Details of membership from branch chairman, Derek Morgan: email dmcaym@googlemail.co.uk.



Wedding Open Weekend!

Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th October 11:00am - 6:00pm



For the weekend of **Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th October**. The Barn at West Farm shall be opening its doors to welcome prospective couples looking to get married in 2015 & 2016.

During the weekend we will have our new for 2015 marquee in position with panoramic views across the South Wales Heritage Coast... its a must see venue for all couples!

Due to the expected numbers if you would like to book dedicated time with one of our coordinators to discuss your special day please make an appointment by calling the telephone number below.

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'LIBRARIES BATTLE GOES ON' campaigners warn

CAMPAIGNERS battling against cuts to Vale library services have vowed to continue their fight - despite a Vale Council meeting voting in favour of proposals to cut hours at four major libraries, and recruit volunteers to run the remaining five community libraries.

"The council was split on the decision - with 25 voting to support what they called

'innovative proposals', and 18 voting to 'express concern at proposals to cut opening hours and an over-reliance on volunteers, instead of professional library staff,'" said Plaid Cymru councillor Ian Johnson, who moved the motion against the cuts.

He called for the Vale public to make their views on the cuts known in the next consultation - which will ask for the public's opinion on the cuts to opening hours, voluntary libraries and moving the St Athan library.

"There is substantial concern

about the impact of these changes upon the Vale library service, which is held in high regard.

"We have 20 per cent more regular users of libraries in the Vale than the Wales or UK average; 96 per cent of people surveyed think that this is a good service and 95 per cent think that the current opening hours are good.

"But this is all under threat by plans to cut opening hours and have volunteer-run libraries.

Health and education twin priorities for Wales

LAST week, I presented the Welsh Government's Draft Budget for 2015-16 to the Senedd – at the start of a process which will enable all Assembly Members, their committees and our partners in the NHS, local government and the third sector, to scrutinise and respond to the proposals.

In the introduction to my statement, I reminded Assembly Members of the difficult financial circumstances we are in, as a result of ongoing austerity measures, which include

major cuts to our budget by the UK Government.

The Welsh Government Budget in 2015-16 will be nearly 10 per cent lower overall in real terms compared to 2010-11.

This means more than £1.5bn removed from the Welsh public purse for the services we are responsible for – education, health, social services, transport, the environment, housing, culture and sport.

In my statement, I said that the long period of sustained reductions has had an impact on all our services – even those we have been able to protect.

Alongside reducing budgets, there is an increase in demand for our services, particularly for the elderly and their carers.

There is also clear

evidence that the more we can invest in 'preventative services' to reduce need, to intervene early before problems become insurmountable and to break down barriers and boundaries to enable agencies and professionals to work more closely together, the better we can manage these constrained budgets.

Over the spring and summer, I have been meeting people who work in the front-line in our public services across Wales, to learn from them first-hand about the needs they are experiencing and the challenges they face.

Their response has been constructive, realistic and positive, showing their commitment to the people they serve and their determination to

protect and support the services they deliver.

EXTRA FUNDING INVESTING in our Health Service is a priority of this Welsh Government. That is what the people of Wales expect.

That was the headline message of my Draft Budget last week and I backed this up by announcing nearly half a billion pounds of extra funding for the NHS in Wales over this year and next.

This decision came as a result of the evidence provided by the Nuffield Trust, an independent foundation, which analysed the financial position of the health service in Wales – resulting in a report published earlier this year which gave a very

GUEST COLUMN



by
Jane Hutt
AM (Minister
for Finance)

clear message.

It said that a sustainable NHS is within our grasp, provided we make the necessary improvements

to productivity and service delivery, on the back of the additional investment of £425m that I announced as part of the Draft Budget.

I also made it clear in my Draft Budget that local government has a vital role to play in delivering our local services, and I announced an additional £10m in recognition of the pressures faced by social services.

This highlights the important relationship between health and social care, which is vital to improve the services we give to vulnerable people, particularly the elderly, integrating health and social care at a local level.

Last week, I also announced that we have reached an agreement with the Welsh Liberal

Democrats on this Draft Budget, to reflect our shared priorities for investing in our young people.

Under the agreement, the Pupil Deprivation Grant (PDG) will rise from £918 to £1,050 per pupil next year and then to £1,150 in 2016-17, also extending the PDG to the under-fives in our schools.

This will give certainty to our schools in the Vale who have been awaiting the Draft Budget announcement. The PDG is allocated to schools based on the number of pupils eligible for free school meals, helping to breaking the link between educational attainment and disadvantage.

We have also agreed to set up a new youth concessionary fares scheme for 16 and 17

year olds to help them access work and training and have mitigated cuts to apprenticeships by £10m over the next two years.

Housing is also a priority of the Welsh Government with £37m allocated towards our affordable housing land scheme, our (empty) Houses into Homes programme, home improvement loans and social housing grant.

The tough choices and decisions we have made will be debated and discussed over the coming weeks but the feedback is clear that people want us to support and improve our Health Service and our schools – those are the priorities in this Budget for Wales.

School closure plan goes to the High Court

A regional Conservative AM has welcomed news that the High Court is to scrutinise the decision by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) to close Tynyrheol School, Llangeinor.

Byron Davies has again met campaigners in the village who are fighting to save the school from being closed, along with Betws Primary School, and replaced with a new joint school at Betws.

Mr Davies has already challenged BCBC over the way in which it conducted the consultation into the closure plans, including the fact that no regional AMs were consulted, although they are statutory consultees.

He has since received an apology from chief executive Darren Mephram and an assurance that the council has now changed the way in which it consults to ensure that regional AMs, who have equal powers to

constituency AMs, are fully involved in all consultations in future.

At the meeting with campaigners, Mr Davies was told that a judicial review into BCBC's decision is taking place at the High Court in Cardiff on December 8 and 9. The action is being brought by parent Ceri McCann.

Parents are arguing that the council failed to adhere to the provisions of the School Organisation Code in the way in which it consulted and made statements about the educational benefits of closing the school which were not backed up by any evidence.

Mr Davies, who is a Conservative regional AM for South Wales West, said: "I was unhappy with the way that the council handled consultation into closing this school."

"I welcome the fact that the whole issue is to be scrutinised at this court hearing and that the council's arguments for closure will be subjected to detailed investigation."

"It will be interesting to see if they stand up in a court of law."

Marj's handmade quilts raffle raises £60,000 for lifeboat



Marj Abraham has raised £2,600 for the RNLI since Easter by raffling handmade quilts outside the Porthcawl RNLI station.

MP is 'impressed' by furniture aid charity



Madeleine Moon MP (on right) with some of the volunteers.

NEWSLETTERS drop into an MP's email inbox every few seconds bringing information on everything from international development to energy prices.

One that caught the eye of Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon recently was from Community Furniture Aid, based in Pyle. The charity collects unwanted furniture and household items and recycles them to furnish homes for people in need.

Led by Julian and Marianne Cash, it has over 20 volunteers who organise the collection and distribution of items across the county borough.

A small payment is required for those taking the furniture and other items to cover the cost of delivery and storage.

The charity at present hires a van two days a week for collection and deliveries.

Madeleine said: "The charity provides furniture to a wide variety of

people including young people leaving care, people fleeing domestic violence or leaving prison, referred by Social Services, Probation or Women's Aid.

"It was wonderful to see how household goods that previously may have gone to landfill can help people rebuild their lives."

"I was impressed to hear that between five and seven homes are provided with furniture a week. Community Furniture Aid volunteers are encouraged to learn new skills and for some the charity has provided a passport into employment."

"There is a constant demand for furniture, household equipment, bedding and towels."

Anyone who is interested in donating or utilising the services of the charity can contact Community Furniture Aid on telephone number: 01656 746602 or email: communityfurnitureaid@gmail.com

MARJ ABRAHAM, a member of the Porthcawl RNLI Fundraising Guild, has raised £60,000 over the last 14 years by raffling beautiful handmade quilts outside the Porthcawl RNLI Lifeboat Station.

Since Easter, she has raised £2,600 by selling raffle tickets for the handmade quilts. Marj said: "Along with the Bridgend Quilters Group, we make quilts during the winter between October and April and sell the raffle tickets during the summer to raise money for the RNLI."

"It is a charity close to my heart, as living by the sea, you see the rough weather the crew

go out in risking their lives, and I just want to do something to help."

Philip Missen, lifeboat operations manager said: "It's great to see Marj sitting outside the station shop in all weathers selling her raffle tickets. The money she raises helps the RNLI to provide essential training to our volunteer crews, as well as buying lifeboats and equipment."

"Next year is the 50th anniversary of the RNLI in Porthcawl, and she is already planning a special design to celebrate."

"The quilts Marj and the Bridgend quilters make are all hand made, and all have their own unique design. If these were sold individually, each would sell for hundreds of pounds".

Police appeal after boy (11) is attacked

POLICE are appealing for information after a boy was assaulted at around 4.50pm on Saturday, September 20, on Southerndown Road near Southerndown Cricket Club.

A police spokeswoman reported: "Four boys, aged between nine and 11 years of age, had been sat on a wall at Southerndown Cricket Club while their parents were at the cricket pavilion a short distance away."

"The boys were waving at passing vehicles to see who would wave back, and throwing small chocolate sweets on to the road, to see if they could get vehicles to squash them."

"One of the boys threw a chocolate which accidentally hit a passing vehicle. The driver of the vehicle braked sharply and reversed back up the road."

"On seeing the car reverse the boys jumped off the wall and back into the grounds of the cricket club."

"One of the boys, aged 11, was pulled off the wall by an adult male who then punched him twice to the face. The man then got back into his car and drove off in the direction of

the Three Golden Cups in Southerndown.

"The 11-year-old boy suffered a black eye, a bloody nose and a swollen lip."

The man is described as being white, aged about 30-40 years of age and wearing a white top and shorts that were a darker colour than the top.

He was believed to have been driving a white Nissan Elgrand. Police are appealing to the driver to come forward to assist with enquiries into the incident.

Anyone with information regarding this incident, is asked to contact South Wales Police on 101 quoting reference number 1400352653.

Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be contacted on 08000 555 111 or via their website www.crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information.

Woman tasered

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

She was released on bail, but on July 21, went to Bridgend police station drunk, where she said she wanted to go to prison.

Soon afterwards, she was seen in Tesco's, and followed around the store as she stole various items. She became upset when this was discovered and in the car park, there was a "stand off" between herself and the police. She brandished a knife and was tasered.

In mitigation, it was said that she had a personality disorder and had become addicted to alcohol.

The judge told her that the sentence involved offered her a high amount of support. She was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £60.

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to:
The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71
7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS
AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.
An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'Yes, Vale IS different'

HAVING lived in Cardiff most of my life until moving to Llantwit Major in 2001, I totally agree with Coun Neil Moore. Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan are not compatible partners for a

merger.

Cardiff is a big sprawling city with a large population growing rapidly and with different priorities to the countryside setting of the Vale.

When I moved here, it was a total culture shock to my system. I benefited from the community spirit immediately, though it

was a bit unnerving when strangers smiled and greeted you. In Cardiff, you tend to avoid eye contact.

The pace of life was steady, not hectic, and shopping locally became a pleasure, not a chore.

The roads were well maintained, the streets clean and everyone went out of their way to make you welcome.

Be careful what you

wish for if you think it's a good idea for the merger to take place. The Vale would play second fiddle to the bureaucracy of the capital, and we would lose our much admired public services for their version, which isn't pretty.

Let's keep the excellent Vale of Glamorgan as it is, or at least merge with a similar area.

Jo Cody, Llantwit Major.

Libraries: how local is local?

VALE Council proposals for community-owned or managed libraries across much of the Vale could, bizarrely, have been lifted from the Conservatives' localism section of their manifesto for the 2010 general election.

So how local is local? Well, we see that there are no plans to make Barry or Penarth libraries community-owned or run. It is also clear that a majority of the Vale's councillors serve wards in Barry or Penarth.

Let's be in no doubt: this is a cynical attempt to save half a million pounds a year out of the Vale's budget, with

minimal effect on the library service of the voters of Barry and Penarth, save for a reduction in opening hours.

The lion's share of savings is therefore to the cost of all library users who do not live in Barry or Penarth.

On Monday, October 13 we are expecting the consultation on these proposals to begin. I would call on all Vale library users to respond to the consultation and reject them in the strongest terms.

To the users of Cowbridge and Llantwit Major libraries, I would say don't be complacent just because you are not part of these current proposals. You will surely be next in line when there are yet more savings to be made.

In May 2017, councillors will be held to account by library users all across the Vale for this insulting and ill thought out attack on our valued library services. I hope that the response to the consultation will bring you to your senses.
Adam Riley, East Aberthaw.

No news on a Post Office!

IWONDER if Mr Alun Cairns MP would like to add a campaign against junk mail to his efforts on unwanted phone calls?

I and the other residents of our street all had a large piece of unsolicited mail delivered yesterday calling itself the 'Vale of Glamorgan Chronicle'.

It contained no fewer than eight full colour photos of the perpetrator, who seemed to be on something of an ego trip, yet still no Post Office...hmmmm.
K Robinson, Cowbridge.

Plaid's call on fracking

A PLAID Cymru councillor, Ian Johnson has called for a moratorium on fracking, ahead of Saturday's Frack Free Wales Day (October 11) - where campaigners plan to protest outside the National Assembly for Wales.

Environmental campaigners from Friends of the Earth Cymru say that the Welsh Government has the powers to implement a moratorium.

"Plaid Cymru has called for there to be no fracking until the techniques used for hydraulic fracturing can be proven safe," said Coun Johnson of Barry.

'Keep dogs in check'

IN the past three weeks dogs have twice attacked sheep on farmland adjacent to Stalling Down.

Pregnant ewes are especially vulnerable at this time of year and can abort their lambs even if the dogs do not catch them.

Would people exercising their dogs please ensure that they

are under control at all times? They should be aware that livestock keepers are entitled to shoot dogs near animals and the owners are liable for veterinary expenses, loss of stock, and prosecution by the police.

With a little care and vigilance, all this can be avoided.
John Pugh, Aberthaw.

Assembly powers: 'Let people vote'

READING the comments from Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale of Glamorgan, and First Minister Carwyn Jones AM on more powers for the Assembly, which could include tax raising powers, the people must be given a vote on this.

My own opinion is that they must never be given these extra powers.

The Health Service is being cut to the bone, people are dying in ambulances waiting to be seen at hospitals, the education system is in

tatters. It seems to me that the National Assembly is nothing more than a legal dictatorship.

Next on the plan, if councils cannot agree to merge with each other, they are going to be forced to merge by the dictat coming from the Assembly.

How is that for democracy? They say we have too many councils; if that is the case, we have way too many Government departments.

I think the way forward is to abolish the Assembly for all the good it has done us.
DJ Radford, Barry.

'Reform vital to save the NHS'

WITHOUT wishing to get embroiled in the school playground tiff about whether the Welsh or English NHS is better, the subject is worthy of serious debate as it affects all of us.

The NHS, at point of delivery, is in most cases an excellent service, but we tend to only hear about things that go wrong. The brutal truth is that whichever part of the UK you are in, the NHS in its current format is unsustainable.

An increasing and ageing population has put intolerable pressures on the system which fundamentally, has not changed since its inception in 1948.

Think of the changes that have taken place since then!

Unless there is a huge increase in taxation to cover the additional costs, the whole system will grind to a halt without reform.

Elsewhere in the UK, the health budget is ring-fenced, so the money cannot be spent elsewhere.

The Assembly, in its infinite wisdom, removed this safeguard, so now the money goes into the central pot and can be spent on schools or roads or vanity projects like buying airports.

Can it be fixed? Yes, but not in the short term and not without making changes which will be

unpopular. Other than reintroduction of prescription charges, other measures which might need to be considered are withholding treatment from patients deemed to bear responsibility for their own condition - smoking, drinking, over-eating, for example. Wastage has to be cut in all areas.

Will it be fixed? Not unless there is the political will to do it and as cuts don't buy votes, the answer is almost certainly no.

The NHS is close to collapse, with an overspend of £500 million in the first three months of the financial year - with Wales particularly affected by the number of doctors leaving it.

Simply throwing more money at it does not solve the problem - fundamental reform is required.

Alec Trousdell, Llanblethian.

First showing

LOCAL landscape artist Margaret Brown is exhibiting her work for the first time in the Travellers' Gallery on Barry railway station.

The exhibition, entitled, 'Land, Sea, Air' runs until November 7 on weekdays from 7am - 12 noon.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2014

1. On the 22nd August 2014 The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 32, 33 & 35 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described below:

2. The Order will come into operation on 23rd August 2014 or on the dates that the signs and road markings are in place and be known as the 'Vale of Glamorgan Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) (Amendment) Order 2014'

3. A copy of the Order and plans showing the affected area may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

4. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 22nd August 2014 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:

Vale of Glamorgan Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE

Proposed Car Park Charging and Enforcement - Daily 08.00 to 23.00
Appendix

Nells Point Barry Island

Dated this 9th day of October 2014.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

APPENDIX

PAYMENT PARKING PLACES

Classes of vehicles

1. Registered Disabled vehicles
2. Motor cars
3. Buses / Coaches
4. Solo Motorcycle



Name of Parking Place	Class of Vehicle	Hours & Days of operation of Parking Place	Max Period for which a vehicle may wait	Scale of Charges for Parking Place
Nell's Point, Station Approach Road, Barry Island	1, 2 & 4 by arrangement only	08.00 - 23.00 every day	15 hours	From 15 March - 30 September (08.00 - 23.00 hours)* *Evening rate applies when parking after 18.00 hours 0-2 Hours £2.00 2 plus hours £5.00 Buses / Coaches £10.00 Disabled FREE Solo Motorcycle FREE (18.00 - 23.00 hours)* Evening rate 0-7 Hours £2.00 Disabled FREE Buses / Coaches £5.00 Solo Motorcycle FREE
	1, 2 & 4 by arrangement only	08.00 - 23.00 every day	15 hours	From 1 October - 14 March (08.00 - 23.00 hours) 0-15 Hours FREE Buses / Coaches FREE Disabled FREE Solo Motorcycle FREE

PUBLIC NOTICE

LICENSING ACT 2003 Section 17 (5)
Notice of Application for a Premises Licence
NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT

An application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a PREMISES LICENCE.

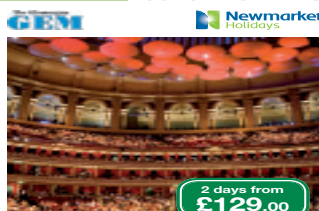
To permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below. Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk. Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below: Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.

Name and postal address of the premises:
Blaengarw Workingmen's Hall, Blaengarw Road, Blaengarw, Bridgend CF32 8AW.

Statement of intended licensable activities: (1) Sale by retail of alcohol Monday to Saturday: 12.00 - 23.00hrs. Live music, recorded music, performances of dance, anything of a similar description, making music, dancing & entertainment Monday to Saturday: 10.00 - 23.00hrs. Plays, pantomimes and films Monday to Saturday: 10.00 - 23.00hrs. Indoor sporting events including boxing and wrestling Monday to Saturday: 10.00 - 23.00hrs. Opening hours of the premises Monday to Saturday: 08.30 - 23.30hrs.

Date by which representations must be made:
28th October 2014. This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 30th Sept 2014, for 28 consecutive days. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000. (1) This must include details of activities, type of entertainment and appropriate days and times.

COACH HOLIDAYS



Carols with the Stars

A star-studded celebration
Departs Dec 2014
Get your Christmas off to a flying start with this ever-popular, star-studded event in aid of Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research. Highlights include joining the choir in some traditional carols, a massed children's choir, one of the country's top brass bands and numerous appearances by well-known celebrities from the world of television.

Price includes

- Coach travel throughout
- A circle seat for Carols with the Stars
- A sightseeing tour of London or time to shop and sightsee
- One night's bed and continental breakfast in a good hotel in the Greater London area
- The services of a Tour Manager

www.newmarket.travel/glg1856

0330 160 7817 quoting code GLG

Newmarket Promotions Ltd, ABTA VPP02. Subject to availability. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges.



NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me. I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tynycod1@yahoo.co.uk



Annual concert TOMORROW (Friday, October 10) Bridgend Male Voice Choir is holding its annual concert in St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Ewenny Road, Bridgend at 7pm.

It has as a guest soloist, soprano Jessica Robinson an outstanding musical team in director Rhianon Williams-Hale, Stephanie Bailey piano accompanist and assistant musical director, Scott Williams (organ accompanist).

Rhianon Williams-Hale has acted as accompanist for Treorchy, Bridgend and Pontardulais male voice choirs. Jessica Robinson recently graduated from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama with a first class honours degree and began her career in her home county of Pembrokeshire.

She went on to gain success nationally in the Urdd and National Eisteddfodau.

Tickets, £5 can be obtained from the News shop, Dunraven Place, Porters Estate Agents, Nolton Street, or at the door.

On October 25, the choir will be travelling to 's-Hertogenbosch in the Netherlands to take part in the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the city concert by the 53rd Division Welsh Regiment.

Legion cabaret

THE village of Cefn Cribwr will commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of World War One with a cabaret concert 'Flanders field and beyond' tomorrow (Friday, October 10) at the Community Centre (Green Hall) at 7pm.

The special concert will feature local artists including Dorothy Brown - former member of the Welsh National Opera, Melin Griffith Community Brass Band, pupils of Cefn Primary School, pupils of Cynffig Comprehensive School, Actorion-Y-Bont and the concert organiser Win Griffiths OBE.

There will be a raffle during the evening and people are invited to bring their own food and drink to the hall.

Tickets £5 for adults, £4 for children and senior citizens, available from village organisations and from Win Griffiths on 01656 740526 or email: ceriwin@talk21.com.

All proceeds go to the Royal British Legion.

Poppy appeal

DIXIE Dean, secretary of the Garw Valley branch of the Royal British Legion and Cŵr Meibion Cwm Garw (Garw Valley male choir) is organising his 10th poppy day appeal concert at the Pontycymer leisure centre on October 25 at 7.30pm, to raise funds for the Royal British Legion.

The concert will feature band and drums of the South Wales Police, Cŵr Meibion Cwm Garw, and the joint school choirs of Blaengarw and Ffaldau.

A special guest this year will travel from Newport for the concert. Ron Jones is 97 years of age. He featured in a BBC programme a few weeks ago, *From Auschwitz with Love*. Ron was a prisoner of war at Auschwitz and also survived the 500-mile German 'Death March'.

There will be 22 standards for the Muster and three come from Lynton in Hampshire, Gloucester and Black Heath in the West Midlands, five air cadet standards, and also the standard of South Wales Police.

A detachment of army cadets will help out on the night with tickets, programmes and ushering.

Tickets, £5 and £2.50 for children

under-16 can be obtained from Pontycymer Post Office.

School transport

BCBC is holding consultation workshops in the following schools to discuss proposals on variations to free school transport: October 13, Pencoed Comprehensive School, 3.25pm - 7pm; October 15, Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School, 3.25pm - 7pm; October 16, Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen, 3.20pm - 7pm; October 20, Porthcawl Comprehensive School, 3.25pm - 7pm; October 22, Maesteg Comprehensive School, 3pm - 7pm; October 23, Bridgend College, 4pm - 7pm.

School attendance

TYNYRHEOL primary school, Llangeinor attendance figures for September: class 1 - 94.1 per cent; class 2 - 93.4 per cent; class 3 - 95 per cent are the winners, with a certificate on the classroom door and winners of the attendance cup for the next month.

The children have an additional incentive to attend school, aiming for 97 per cent or above next month for each class!

Well raised!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following in their efforts to raise funds for Macmillan coffee mornings in the parish of Llansantffraid, Betws and Aberkenfig: Raema Gunton £243, Anne Komor £277, and Nazareth chapel and members of LBA £332.

Harvest festival

MEMBERS of St Tyfodwg's church, Glynogwr are holding a harvest festival 'Songs of Praise' service on Sunday, October 12, at 6.30pm; everyone is welcome to take part.

Gleemen celebrate

MAESTEG Gleemen male voice choir holds its annual concert in Maesteg town hall on Saturday, October 18 at 7pm, when the compere will be well-known BBC presenter Chris Needs.

The choir's musical director Alun Hodges will conduct the choir assisted by his wife Suzanne on the piano.

Tickets are available from any chorister, or at the town hall's box office.

The choir rehearses in the British Legion Club, Commercial Street, Maesteg on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7pm to 8.30pm, and welcomes visitors and new members

Tondu primary

MRS Susan Pilsher the Head teacher invites carers and friends of children in Miss Davies's class (Ogwr) to join the class assembly on Friday, October 10 and Mrs Pugh's class (Garw) on October 17, both at 10.20am.

October 10 will also be the day when the school is holding its Macmillan coffee morning. All donations will be gratefully received.

71st concert

MAESTEG Amateur Operatic Society is putting on its 71st annual concert in Maesteg town hall at 7.15pm on October 22 - 25. It has the same principal artistes who performed in the NODA best district and regional production 2013 award winners for its show *Jekyll and Hyde*.

Addams Family the Musical lightens the mood with an evening in the company of the world's weirdest family.

Members of the audience are welcome to wear Halloween fancy dress. Tickets (£12 and £10) from town hall box office (in Maesteg indoor market) or online from Ticketsource.

Recycling lessons for Pencoed pupils



Tony Davies and David Shankland from ADA Training with pupils from Pencoed Primary School and Angela Todd (left), BCBC's waste performance and policy officer.

CHILDREN at Pencoed Primary have been learning about recycling at a special workshop.

The school currently has three Green Flags from Keep Wales Tidy and year-5 pupils tested their knowledge of all things

recycling in a fun quiz at the workshop delivered by ADA Training, in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council.

Coun Phil White, BCBC cabinet member for communities said: "Whatever your age, it is really interesting to hear just how long it takes for items to break down

if they are thrown out for landfill. It shows us all just how important it is to recycle these materials rather than throw them away.

"And it is particularly vital for children to be taught this so that they can develop good recycling habits from a young age.

Karen & Co climbing a mountain for KPC charity!



ABOVE: Training at Margam Mountain (left to right) Becca, Emma and Karen with Clare.

KAREN PHILLIPS, 745399.

senior youth worker at KPC Youth, and her friends Emma, Becca and Clare, will be climbing Snowdon this weekend (October 11) to help raise funds for the local charity.

They are appealing to the public for support online at <https://www.charitycheekout.co.uk/1123339/snowdon> or contact Karen on 01656

"The girls have been training over the past few weeks and have already walked up Pen-y-Fan and trained up Margam Mountain last weekend. All at KPC send them good luck for this weekend!" said KPC Youth's project development manager, Alison Mawby.

Eggs-actly so! Brothers crack Festival challenge



ABOVE: Matthew (12) and Thomas (11) receive their prize from Coun Phil White.

BROTHERS Matthew and Thomas Parr from Broadlands, were the victors in Bridgend Festival's annual egg drop competition - after their hardy egg survived a 10-metre drop without cracking.

They had wrapped the egg in newspaper and sticky tape to help it survive the fall, and won a box of sweets for being such 'good eggs'.

The boys were invited into the Mayor's Parlour at the Civic Offices in Bridgend to receive their prize from Coun Phil White.

He also handed out a box of sweets to the winners of the spaghetti bridge building contest. Competitors had to construct a bridge using a combination of spaghetti and sticky tape, and sisters Jessica and Philippa Allen from Pencoed won after their mighty bridge withstood just over 17kg in weight!



ABOVE: Sisters Jessica (12) and Philippa (9), who won the spaghetti bridge building competition.

Who wants to build what and where?

Mr Andrew Middleton - 18 Honeysuckle Way, Brackla, Bridgend - Crown lift two ash trees up to approx 20ft, cut back thorn bush and cut back conifers.

Mrs Heather Mehrez - Angelfoot House, off Bridgend Road, Pen-y-fan - Remove ash tree, coppice line of elms, limes and sycamores and 2m lateral reduction of branches of sycamore tree.

Grayson Enterprises Ltd - Llys Gwyn Residential Home, Heol Broom, Maudlam, Bridgend - Alterations and extension to existing residential home.

Mulberry Homes Ltd - 15 Crown Road, Kenfig Hill, Bridgend - Erection of single bungalow, remodelling of garage and associated works.

Mr M Lewis - 4 Llwyn Glas, Broadlands, Bridgend - Retention of decking to rear garden and addition of 0.6m of trellis on top of the existing rear fence.

Mr L Llewellyn - 6 Woodland Way,

Sarn - Single storey rear extension and convert flat roof to pitched roof.

Mr Anthony Jenkins - 28 West Road, Porthcawl - Relaxation of standard time condition to allow further five years to implement consent.

Mr Steve Marks - 196 New Road, Porthcawl - First floor rear extension and rear dormer extension.

Asda Stores Ltd - Asda Stores Ltd, Coychurch Road, Bridgend - Integrate photovoltaic panels to cover area of 2.384sqm of roof.

Mrs M Hare - Rear Dyffryn 205 New Road, Porthcawl - Construct two bedroom bungalow maintaining original rear access.

Mr James McCarthy - 41 Brynheulog, Brynmenyn, Bridgend - Rear dormer extension.

Green Frog Connect Ltd - Highways between Court Colman and WPD primary substation off Great Western

Avenue, Bridgend - Installation of underground electricity line.

Mrs Hannah Ciroto - 114 Commercial Street, Maesteg - Change of use of solicitor's office to tea room.

Mr A Dobbin - Land adjacent Rookwood Pyle Road, Pyle - Six dwellings, access and car parking at land adjacent Rookwood (outline application).

Mr and Mrs Ward - 11 Verland Way, Pencoed - Extension to dormer on front elevation.

Mrs James - 16 Dinam Street, Nantymoel - Erection of an orangery style conservatory to the rear elevation.

ABMU Health Board - Maesteg Community Hospital, Neath Road, Maesteg - Construct surface car park and demolish existing front conservatory and replace with new entrance lobby.

WINNERS SNAP UP THEIR PRIZES IN PORTHCAWL COUNCIL PHOTO AWARDS

PHOTOGRAPHS BY WINDSOR RIMRON

WINNERS of the Porthcawl Town Council photographic competition have been presented with prize money and framed copies of their photographs by the Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Sean Aspey at the council offices.

The junior section of the competition was for under-18s and the first prize of £75 went to Melissa Roundtree. The second prize of £50 went to Jamie Harrowing, and the third prize of £25 went to Jacob Rimron.

The adult section was for people aged 18 and over, and the first prize of £150 went to Andrew Gronow. The second prize of £100 went to Glyn Edmunds, and the third prize went to Glyn Evans.

There were also four highly-commended images, which were also printed, framed and presented to their respective photographers. Geoffrey Baker and Carin Harris received their prints from the Mayor. Unfortunately, Gareth Thompson and Dean Merry were unable to attend the presentation and will receive their prints at a later date.

Congratulations to all the winners and we hope next year's competition will be just as successful.

GE



Andrew-Gronow – 1st.



Glyn-Edmunds – 2nd.



Glyn-Evans – 3rd.



Carin-Harris – HC.



Geoffrey-Baker – HC.



Jacob-Rimron – 3rd, J.



Jamie-Harrowing – 2nd prize.



Melissa-Roundtree – 1st prize.

Weatherman opens autumn fayre

S4c WEATHER presenter Chris Jones officially opened the Cylch Meithrin Gwdihw autumn fayre in Bryntirion Community.

There was a variety of stalls and activities at the fayre, including a fundraising stall for Tŷ Hafan, Mudiad Meithrin's stall selling Welsh resources for children, and a cake stall with a 'Gwdihw' owl cake made by Lisa Jackson, a parent of one of the children who attends the cylch meithrin.

Visitors had an opportunity to visit the

playroom used by the cylch meithrin, which is open Monday – Friday 9am – 12.15pm for children aged 2 – 4 years old.

Chris Jones said: "It's lovely to see a new cylch meithrin opening in Bridgend, in an area where there was a gap in Welsh medium early years provision. I wish Yvonne and the cylch meithrin staff good luck for the future."

The cylch meithrin also holds a Ti a Fi parent and toddler session every Wednesday at 10am. Contact Yvonne, the cylch leader on 0782825867 or cmgwdihw@gmail.com.

New use for old library

THE new Carnegie House Arts and Culture Hub in Wyndham Street, Bridgend is putting on its first concert on Saturday, October 18, at 7pm.

Baritone Mark Llewellyn Evans will be appearing and the Mayor of Bridgend, Coun Bob Burns said: "We are proud and fortunate to have

about Carnegie House, Mark at Carnegie House, the former library, for a special, one-off evening concert."

Carnegie House now accommodates Bridgend Town Council's chamber and staff office on the first floor. The ground floor hosts the Arts and Culture Hub, which is developing a programme of events.

For more information about Carnegie House, contact Leanne Edwards on 01656 815757.

Frock swap is back!

A 'Fashinista's Frock Swap' evening will be held next Wednesday, October 15, at 7.30pm in the Green Room (above Sussed), in James Street, Porthcawl.

Sussed director Margaret Minninnick said: "It's a chance to raid your closet for items you no longer wear, swap them and go home with something amazing to freshen up your wardrobe."

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bought new."

Participants should bring at least one loved item (clothing/shoes, accessories or jewellery), considered too good for charity shops. They must be of decent quality, permitting a same value swap.

Margaret said: "Bring those shoes you bought that were a little bit too big, or that dress you love but which just isn't your colour or no longer fits! But please don't bring anything with holes, out of shape or stained!"

Men's clothes and children's clothes are also welcome, she added.

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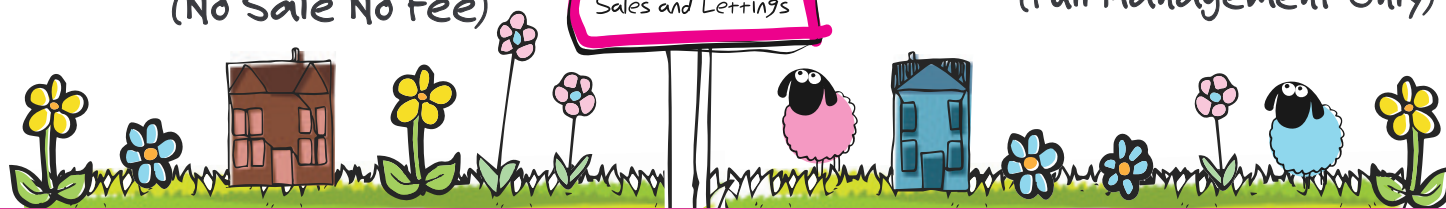


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Game of two halves for the Phoenix



Amy Stevens (above) and Leanne Burnell were on the scoresheet for the Phoenix. PICTURES BY JULIE HANCOCK.



PENCOED Phoenix faced Gwernyfed, and in a real game of two halves just fell short, losing 21-17.

Phoenix showed good ball skills through the hands in the first half, putting pressure on and frustrating Gwernyfed, and tries came from Hannah Whittingham, Leanne Burnell and Amy Stevens, with a conversion by Sam Trickey, making the score 17-0 at halftime.

In the second half Gwernyfed started a lot quicker out of the blocks than Phoenix. With captain Katie Murphy rallying her troops as the referee warned of repeated offside decisions, Phoenix picked up a sin bin and a red card.

Injuries also took their toll on the team and let Gwernyfed back into

game, as they earned their win with tries from Sioned Edwards (two) and Ania Coliek, with conversions by Emily James.

Ladies of match for Phoenix were captain Katie Murphy and Leanne Burnell. We wish all injured players a speedy recovery.

A bye for Phoenix could help the injury list next weekend before the team face Llandaff North at home on October 19, a team Phoenix have already beaten this season.

All new players and supporters are welcome to join, contact 01656 860152 or visit the club's Facebook page for more information.

More pictures can be seen at www.pencoedrfc.co.uk or <http://juliehancock.org>.

JH

Pencoed rugby latest news

PENCOED Second XV travelled to Maesteg Celtic with just 15 players and predictably, after a good first half, eventually went down 33-15.

In a committed team effort which saw forwards Adam Goodridge, and Rhys Edwards having to play as emergency wings, centres Liam Evans and Liam Halse, who both had strong games, got tries, with Jamie Pensom adding a conversion and a penalty.

Despite despite leading 17-0 at the interval Pencoed Phoenix went down 21-17 at Gwernyfed in the National Premiership.

Their catalogue of injuries continued in this match, stand-in captain Katie Murphy and Kathryn Stonehouse were forced from the field of play, their woes

compounded by both yellow and red cards for technical offences at the set piece, Leanne Burnell, Hannah Whittingham and Amy Stevens scored the Phoenix tries (see match report above).

Junior Phoenix recorded their first win over Giffach Goch girls in emphatic style with a 53-7 victory at Giffach.

Scrum half Kayleigh Powell led the Phoenix try scorers with a hat trick; furthest tries came from skipper Amy Morgan (two) Megan Griffiths, Megan Whittaker, Caitlin Jones, and a penalty try.

Despite a strong second half performance at young Pencoed Youth side went down 10-6 at Bridgend Athletic in the Ospreys League.

On Saturday, Pencoed youth host Bonyman in the Ospreys League, 2.30pm kick off.

TR



ROCKWOOL TEAMS UP WITH UNDER-8S!

ROCKWOOL Ltd, which has its UK base in Pencoed, is the new sponsor of Pencoed RFC under-8s. The 15-strong squad is made up of seven and eight-year-old girls and boys.

In the picture are: Back row: coaches for Pencoed under-8s Matthew Richards and Lee

Powell; Bob Perry Rockwool Production Director, Kirill Fedorovskiy Rockwool Finance Director; Dave Baynham, coach for Pencoed under-8s.

Second row: Kaitlyn Griffiths, Monty Davies, Bobby Childs, Freddie Berry-White, Cian Evans, Ella Baynham, Jake Hall, Cai Harries, Morgan Richards.

Front row: Connor Howells, Tomas Edwards, Caled Jones,

Iwan Powell, Riley Williams.

Each member of the team has a new kit, courtesy of Rockwool. Coaches David, Lee and Matthew said: "We are very grateful for the amazing support from Rockwool to Pencoed under-8s, and for their help and investment in young sport within the local community."

Porthcawl are just pipped

THIS game between Porthcawl and Nantymoel was billed as being possibly the match of the day, and it lived up to that billing, with the valley outfit coming good at the death to take the spoils.

Indeed, Nantymoel started far the better, bringing pressure to bear almost from kick off and when J Wits popped over an early penalty for 0-3, Porthcawl knew that it would take all they could muster to get a result.

A great steal by Dai James at a breakdown saw Jordan Skidmore scythe into the visitors' 22 to test the defence, which held firm.

Skidmore it was again moments later as his mesmerising 50-metre break was halted only with a last-ditch tackle when the posts beckoned.

Nanty are a quality side and their quick thinking brought rewards at a tap penalty as No 8 A Faulkner snapped up the try wide out, which Wits improved with a super kick for 0-10.

One thing the Seaweeds have shown so far this term is a determination to get back on terms when trailing and flanker Tom Lodwig, who was excellent throughout, drove into the heart of the Nanty defence.

Scrum half Connor Rees, deftly got the ball away to Mattie Davies and Gareth Richards sent wing Gareth Rees haring over for a fine try, goaled by Jon Phillips, and at 7-10 it was game on again.

However, the visitors nudged back in front to lead at the break, as Wits kicked a good penalty for 7-13.

Straight from the kick-



LEFT: David Hughes makes a break as a Nantymoel player goes a little high. PICTURE BY TRACEY WILLIAMS.

loose pass saw centre Morgan gleefully grab the interception for the visitors to make the lung-bursting surge to score between the posts for Clemmott to convert for 24-28 going into injury time.

Phillips briefly brought Porthcawl hope with another penalty for 27-28 before Clemmott again wrapped it up for the visitors with a penalty at 27-31, the final act of a thoroughly absorbing match.

Porthcawl will feel justly aggrieved at losing what would have been the result of the day, yet

the double bonus point was the least their performance deserved.

Nantymoel showed why they have been a force in recent years, although they will know that the late get out of jail card was somewhat fortunate in the great scheme of things. The match was a great advert for rugby and both sides are to be congratulated for making it so.

Porthcawl make the short trek to Cefn Cribwr on Saturday for what promises to be yet another intriguing contest.

PF

Sports under-15s impress with victory

BRIDGEND Sports under-15s faced Kenfig Hill at the Bandstand in their fourth Ospreys Cup game of the season.

Going into the match, both teams were tied for second place in the group with 10 points each, so this game was always going to be crucial in terms of who is to progress to the Bowl, which is the third tier competition.

The Sports are now in pole position to qualify from the group, having recorded a well-deserved 29-17 victory over Kenfig Hill. The Sports turned out in good numbers with a squad of 23 for the fixture.

The Sports started the game at a high tempo and they looked the most likely to open the scoring out of the two teams.

Shortly after, the breakthrough came when winger Joe Duffill made a great interception which resulted in him scoring a superb individual try which opened the scoring for the Sports.

However it was not all plain sailing for the Sports as the visitors equalised soon after when Kenfig Hill made a succession of good passes that played in one of their players, who made a neat finish to score right in the corner.

Then the Sports showed good character to regain the lead through captain Matthew Biggs. This try originated from a lineout which allowed the Sports to set up several phases of play that ended in the captain forcing himself over to make the score 10-5 to the Sports.

The momentum was now with the home side

going into the latter stages of the half and the Sports made the most of this dominance by extending their lead to 12 points going into halftime.

Outside-half Drew Price played a pivotal role in this try as he broke into the visitors' 22 and played the ball perfectly to Matthew Biggs, who was tackled just short of the line before Joe Davis dived over to score under the posts.

With the Sports starting the second half with the advantage of 12 points, the pressure was now on Kenfig Hill.

However the visitors hit back and scored two successive long-range tries to level the scoreboard at 17-17.

There was still time for more twists and turns as the Sports halted Kenfig's mini revival to win the game.

They edged back in front through Matthew Biggs, who once again showed good determination to score his fourth try of the season to make the score 22-17.

The team then finished the match in style thanks to Calum Reape, who scored the Sports' fifth try of the day off the back of a charge down to make the final score 29-17.

Overall, the Sports certainly lived up to the pressure in what was a decisive win for their advancement in the Ospreys Cup, and also it was nice to get a victory over Kenfig Hill, a team that they have not beaten all that often in recent years.

TOM PROSSER

All square for Sports under-9s

BRIDGEND Sports under-9s made the short trip to play Tondy on Sunday.

The young players knew that they would need to improve on the previous week's performance if they were to compete with a side that had beaten them in a tournament at Maesteg a couple of weeks previous.

The Sports were quickly into their stride from the start, a fine break by Joel Rogers with good supporting play and passing was finished off with a try from Mackenzie Dent.

Tondy responded from the restart but encountered a resilient Sports team determined to defend. A cover tackle from Tom Chick gave Sports ball from the breakdown.

The Sports failed to capitalise from the good work by then spilling the ball in the tackle themselves. Tondy regained possession from the scrum but some solid tackling from Sports players Tom Chick, Jodi Keane, Tyrone Davies, Joel Rogers, Thomas Coles and Dylan Morgan kept the home team at bay for a short period.

The Sports youngsters had learned from the previous week's games that they should not give

the opposition space. Tondy levelled the scores however, following a period of persistent pressure with a try from Charlie Edwards.

Sports youngsters attacked from the restart with Callum Lewis rediscovering his form; he proved to be a threat whenever he had the ball and combined well with supporting players to keep play in the Tondy half.

Determined running and pressure saw Tondy concede a penalty. A quick restart led to a try for the Sports by Mackenzie Dent who was on hand to power his way through the middle of the home defence. Dent scored his third try of the game following another period of passing and support play.

With a few substitutions to both share the load and to develop the squad players, the Sports lost some rhythm in this match, which was turning out to be a typical local derby with both sides showing great commitment and determination.

Starting the second half 3-1 up, the away team attacked from the start but now it was Tondy's turn to put in some solid tackles to see the Sports spill the ball. Tondy attacked from the scrum working the ball out wide for Dan Burgess

to speed down the touchline to score in the corner. Tondy scored a further try through Logan Fitzgibbon, after some close range attacks on the Sports line.

The game entered the final quarter with Sports mounting a series of sustained attacks; Callum Lewis and Dylan Morgan were again prominent.

On one run near the end of the game Callum Lewis slipped ball to Joel Rogers; the ball was then fed to Tyrone Davies and onto Ieuan Pilliner only for him to be bundled into touch inches short of the line. No further scores followed, the final score 3-3.

Bridgend Sports under-9s had put together a fine collective effort with the players showing commitment and concentration. This week the team are home before they travel for a Bridgend Sports club day to the Liberty Stadium where the club are guests of the Ospreys at the crunch Ospreys v Blues derby match.

New players are always welcome to Bridgend Sports under-9s with training every Wednesday at 6pm at the Bandstand Field. Come along to learn, enjoy and develop your rugby skills in a fun environment.

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Happy Birthday Sarah Smith
on 1st January

Love from Mum, Dad & family xxx

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12pm on 16 October 2014.

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Birthdays

to our darling **Cerys Davies**

Wishing you a very happy 18th birthday on October 13th

with loads of love from
Mum, Dad, Josh, Nan,
Pappy, Tracy, Myfanwy,
Kevin & Cousins xxxc

Lost & Found

FOUND
Two 1st birthday cards

For **Charlie**, in Vale Street, Barry - around 3/4 weeks ago.
Please call **THE GEM** on 01446 774484

LOST

Between Brookfield Park and Cowbridge High Street PLAIN GOLD WEDDING RING on Saturday 4th October between 10.30am-11.30am.
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Family Notices

WARD
Maureen Joan

Peacefully on Saturday, September 27th, Maureen, much loved wife of Alan, loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She will be sadly missed by all family and friends.
Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Wednesday, October 15th at 1.15pm.
Family flowers only please.

PARKS
Julie Ann

Andy, Chris, Gerda and Dave would like to thank all our family and friends for their kind messages of sympathy and support following Julie's passing. We would also like to thank all who attended Julie's funeral and for the generous donations to Velindre made in her honour.

A special thanks also to William James and Sons, Rev Rachel Simpson and St Athan Golf Club for making the day truly memorable.

SHERARD
Mary Elizabeth

Passed away peacefully on 1st October 2014 and will be sadly missed.
Funeral service to be held at Cardiff and Glamorgan Memorial Park Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Friday 10th October at 3.45pm. Family flowers only please. All enquiries to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE.
Tel (029) 2051 4627.

SUTTON
Rita Elizabeth
(of Llantwit Major)

Passed away peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital on 2nd October 2014. Beloved wife of John and a dearly loved mother and grandmother. She will be sadly missed by family and friends.
Resting at W.A. Brown, College St, Llantwit Major until the funeral service on Monday, 13th October in Coychurch Crematorium at 1.15pm. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to Velindre Cancer Care Fundraising c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only please).

WILTON
Robert John

Passed away peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend after a short illness. Much loved husband of Doris, loving father, grandfather and great grandfather. Will be sadly missed by all family and friends.
Funeral service at St Hilary Church on Friday, October 17th, 2014 at 1.15pm, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 2.15pm. Family flowers only, donations if so desired, may be made to Cancer Research Wales, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 2TL.

Public Notices

MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009

PART 4: MARINE LICENSING
APPLICATION FOR A MARINE LICENCE TO CONSTRUCT A SLIPWAY AT THE MOLE, BARRY

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Part 4, Chapter 1, Section 68 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 that The Ocean Watersports Trust has applied to Natural Resources Wales, acting on behalf of the Licensing Authority, for a marine licence to construct a slipway for the use of Barry Community Water Activity Centre at The Mole, Barry Dock, Barry.

The application and plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at **Dock Office, Barry Docks**.
Representations or objections in respect of the application should be made in writing to: Marine Licensing Team, Cardiff Permitting Centre, Natural Resources Wales, 29 Newport Road, Cambria House, Cardiff, CF24 0TP. In your representation/objection please include an address to which correspondence may be sent.
Representations or objections should be made within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference: **CML1449**
Natural Resources Wales, acting on behalf of the Licensing Authority, will pass to the applicant a copy of any representation or objection received.

DEDDF Y MÔR A MYNEDIAD I'R ARFORDIR 2009

RHAN 4: TRWYDDEDU MOROL
CAIS AM DRWYDDEDU FOROL I ADEILADU LLITHRFA YN 'THE MOLE', Y BARRI

Hysbysir drwy hyn, yn unol â Rhian 4, Pennod 1, Adran 68 Ddeddf y Môr a Mynediad i'r Arfordir 2009, fod The Ocean Watersports Trust wedi cyflwyno cais i Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, sy'n gweithredu ar ran yr Awdurdod Trwyddedu, am drwyddedu forol i adeiladu llithrfa i'w defnyddio gan Ganolfaon Gweithgareddau Dŵr Cymuned y Barri, 'The Mole', Doc y Barri, Y Barri.

Gellir gweld y cais a'r cynlluniau sy'n dangos safle'r gwaith yn **Dock Offices, Barry Docks**.
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Vintage tractors are on the road again for local charity

ONCE again, tractor enthusiasts from around the Vale were on the road again last Sunday, starting and finishing in Ogmore Castle field.

All the runs are held to raise money for various local charities, and this time the tractors made their way through Wick, Colwinston, Pentre Meurig and Corntown as the convoy toured the area.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE
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The Barry darts league round-up

The new season for the Barry Darts league started on September 19.

With both leagues now merged into one and a new match format, this promises to be an interesting season.

With only three matches taking place, the Billy Ghosts got their season going with a massive 19-2 victory against the Runways.

Steve Spear hit the only 180 of the night and Mark Driscoll hit a 16 dart leg.

The Dockers had the next big win with a 17-4 win against the Loungers. The final match of the week saw the Plastics lose 10-11 to the Mariners 66.

This game highlighted the change to the format as in previous seasons it would have been a 5-4 win for the Plastics; however, now that every leg counts, the Mariners came out as worthy winners.

In the second round of matches, the BFC

Allsorts started their season with a very impressive win against the current league champions, the Poachers. The match finished 12-9 in the Allsorts favour.

The Billy Ghosts followed up on their big opening win with another impressive performance against fellow Billy side, the Wanderers. Phil Mathews hit a 180 in the 15-6 victory.

The Dockers came out as narrow 10-11 victors away to the Mariners 66 and the Runways opened their campaign with a close 11-10 win over the Raiders.

The Cwm Talwg came out on top against the Plastics 13-8, while the Loungers lost 8-13 at home to the Tynewydd Inn. In the final game of the week, the Park Weasels beat the Hell Raisers 16-5.

All teams are reminded that the annual presentation night is taking place on October 17 at the Cadoxton Cons. Could any outstanding

trophies please be taken to Baddeley's in High Street to allow the trophies to be engraved in time for the presentation.

Raffle prizes would also be greatly appreciated on the night. Teams are encouraged to attend the evening and show their support for the league.

RL

Depleted Barry seconds are defeated

BARRY Second XV were hoping to recapture their early season form against formidable opponents Glamorgan Wanderers on a fine autumnal afternoon.

Once again injuries and unavailability of key players forced coach Rhidian Scott and manager Ken Chow to delve deep into the resources.

There was a recall for veteran fly-half Chris Cummings, who partnered Maltese international John Dimond at half back. Tom Adams was drafted into the wing from the youth squad with Lee Jones returning as captain.

Barry appeared strong early on as they dominated the line-out and looked to gain an advantage in the tight.

There were good forward drives from the veterans Jason Evans and Nick Rolfe, with the midfield looking dangerous with ball in hand.

However, as with the last few games, the lack of a decisive game plan and defensive cohesion let the side down, as following some poor tackling, the visitors sauntered through to score.

Barry's reply was to use their forwards once more to draw a penalty opportunity which Cummings gladly accepted in front of the posts to narrow the deficit.

Not learning from their mistakes, Barry kicked the ball away aimlessly again despite their forward dominance, and the talented Wanderers pack made the home side pay with another unconverted score.

Cummings narrowed the deficit once more with a well-struck penalty, but despite some good individual defensive performances, most notably

from wing Rhys Knapman and full back Evans, the collective defensive unit was frail.

A quality side such as the Wanderers were to take full advantage with some well-executed moves.

The visitors scored decisive tries either side of the interval following more poor game management by the home side to take themselves out of reach – also securing the bonus point.

Scott was left hapless on the sidelines, and his cause was not helped by injuries to key players, forcing him to put flanker Nathan Harris to inside centre, where the player performed admirably.

Tries came and went before the home side finally realised that they must play to their strengths. Using their forward power finally, they turned pressure into a close-range try from substitute Liam Ring. McCann failed to add the extras.

With the full time whistle approaching, Barry kicked a penalty deep into enemy territory once more. The result was a well-worked driving maul leading to Jason Evans touching down for his second try of the season, the final score 54-16.

The management will hope that the late scores will bring some momentum into this weekend where the side will travel to Llandaff, while the Third XV visit Fairwater.

Team: A Evans; Knapman, McCann, Hewitson, Adams, Cummings, Dimond, Thomas, Turnbull, Heard; Flynn, Dutton; Rolfe, Jones ©, J Evans. Replacements: Ring, Westall, Harris, D Evans. Man of the match: Knapman.

KC



Presentation evening for Romilly bowlers

IN previous years winners of the ladies and men's club competitions have received their awards on the final day without many members being there.

As a result, a decision was made early in the season to hold a separate presentation night where all club members would have the opportunity to attend and competition winners would receive their trophies on a special night in front of their peers.

The presentation night is this Saturday at the BP Club, Market Street from 7.30pm, and after a successful outdoor season Romilly Bowling Club can also celebrate retaining their status in the newly-revamped

CML Division One, winning the Midweek League Munro Cup and lifting the Hugh Meddins Trophy, along with successes in the County Finals.

The ladies also had some success, winning their division of the evening league, eventually securing the bronze position overall.

This year, Romilly's charity was in aid of Macmillan Nurses and during the season, a horse racing night was held at the Romilly Park Pavilion with a raffle held on the club's open triples day.

The tremendous generosity from all members and those in attendance on the day helped raise a fantastic £1,000 which will be presented on the night.

FP

DARTS TEAM PLAY AWAY!

THE away leg of the inter league game between the Barry Darts league and the Caldicot and Magor darts league took place on September 26.

A total of 23 people made the trip to Caldicot, with 14 players among them.

The evening started well with Terry Overton and Matt Stanger winning the opening games to give Barry a 2-0 lead. Caldicot then hit back by winning the next six games to lead 6-2 at the break.

In the second half of the match Barry made a comeback, with wins from Jon Hurn, Nick Price, Terry Williams and

Peter de Souza. This left Barry trailing 7-6 going into the final two games.

Jon Hurn's second win of the night wasn't enough as Caldicot won the match 8-7. This was a much improved performance on the 12-5 loss in the match played in Barry.

The event was highly enjoyable and everyone involved is looking forward to the next match in Barry next year. Thanks to all the players and supporters who made the trip and contributed to the event. Thank you to Dave Cutts and the Caldicot and Magor darts league for hosting the night. I would also personally like to thank Bob Usher for arranging the coach.

RL

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Nostalgia at St Athan golf club



Club captain Roger Davidge recently hosted the annual Past Captain's Day at St Athan Golf Club.

This year saw 19 past captains attend the event; fifteen of them managing to play in the 18 hole golf competition before 'donning' their jackets and ties for the evening dinner and presentation. Preceding the sumptuous three course meal provided and served by the club caterer, Leanne and her team, grace was recited eloquently in Welsh by Hugh Williams. Throughout the meal the past captains reminisced about bygone years, proving that the majority still had their memories intact – albeit that golf clubs had to be loaned in the morning to one (unnamed) past captain as he believed his had been stolen while in Bridgend - the 'stolen' clubs were actually located later in the day in the men's changing room! With Roger chairing the evening at the head of the table, he addressed the

conclave of wise men, emphasising how he was honoured but initially felt slightly daunted to be in their presence. He concluded with: "When I look around the room tonight all I see are friends everywhere, so how can I be daunted?", a sentiment acknowledged by everyone present.

The evening culminated with 'absent friends' being remembered and good wishes being passed between everyone, with all agreed that they are looking forward to next year's reunion. Steve Higgins, 2009 captain, collected the trophy as overall winner of the golf, playing off nine with 40 stableford points. Hugh Williams was runner-up with 38 points over JWG Morgan, who was third with 37 points. St Athan Golf Club is proud of its history; a members club which caters for green fee players, but particularly welcomes new playing members. Feel free to visit or phone 01446 751043 for further information.

CM



BARRY RFC WIN IN THE BATTLE OF UNBEATEN SIDES

TRAVELLING to Cardiff last Saturday, expectations were high as two unbeaten sides, Barry RFC and Llandaff North, met.

The crowd were not to be disappointed as both sides gave their all in what turned out to be a sometimes dull but always exciting and entertaining game.

As was to be expected both teams spent the opening minutes testing each other out, looking for possible weaknesses while at the same time indicating their wish to play open rugby.

After about 20 minutes Barry began to enjoy cleaner possession and used it effectively to create chances which unfortunately were not turned into points. The North were very quick up in defence limiting the space for the Barry backs who were beginning to stretch their opponents when given the chance.

However the home side were always a threat and following some Barry indecision, a 60 yard run from defence saw the move breakdown short of the line.

and from the ensuing lineout they drove over the line for the first score of the day which was, added to by a fine touchline conversion.

With only a few minutes of the half remaining, Hadfield launched a massive up and under which appeared to be going dead but rebounded off the posts, and with the home side being unable to clear Barry were awarded a penalty.

A successful lineout led to the ball being fed to Scott who jinked his way over for a try under the posts which was converted to bring the scores level at 7-7 as the halftime whistle was blown.

Barry began the second period with a couple of barnstorming runs from Evans giving them territorial advantage but despite efforts from both scrum and lineout they were unable to penetrate the stubborn home defence.

They were rewarded soon after when Scott converted a penalty to give Barry the lead. Tension was mounting both on and off the field as both sides were

putting huge efforts into both attack and defence with neither prepared to give an inch.

With 20 minutes remaining Barry earned a little breathing space as the home side were penalised for illegal driving, giving Scott the chance to kick a penalty from 40 yards. This was successful given the visitors a six point cushion.

Barry were reduced to 14 men following a yellow card to add more pressure as they were forced to defend for their lives. The North threw everything including the kitchen sink as the game entered its last minutes but the Barry defence was immaculate and managed to frustrate the home team to earn a hard fought, but well earned, win.

The club would like to send best wishes to two long serving members and ex-players of the club, Alan Jones and Chris Oxenham, who are unwell at the moment - we wish them well and look forward to seeing them at the club in the near future.

AJ

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LIFESAVERS SHINE AT CHAMPIONSHIPS

LLANTWIT Major Surf Lifesaving Club recently returned from a tough two weeks of competition at the Surf Lifesaving World Championships in Montpellier, and the Infinite Ocean Surf Rowing Championships in Biarritz.

Lots of excellent results were achieved and medals gained across the team. Having finished the summer volunteer lifeguard patrols on Llantwit Major beach, these events were an excellent way to test the skills and stamina of our lifeguards, who took part in all disciplines of surf lifesaving competition against the best lifeguard clubs and teams from across the world.

Over 1,000 competitors were taking part in the Montpellier World Championships, so our Masters and Youth competitors had to show some great surf and beach skills in surprisingly tough Mediterranean conditions to achieve the following results:

Tamara Pitt: 15th in beach sprint, Gethin Edwards: gold in 2km beach run, fifth in surf Ski. Ben Thomas: ninth in surf ski, 15th in Ironman and 30th in surf swim. Dave Rowlands: 10th in surf ski semi final. Sarah Boyd: fifth in



sprint semi final and sixth in beach flags. Steph Robinson: fifth in surf ski, ninth in Malibu board heat, ninth in Sprint Final, 9th in beach flags. Jennie Pitt: ninth in beach sprint. Natalie McDonagh: ninth in beach flags.

The team also had some great results in the team events: Gethin Edwards, Ben Thomas and Dave Rowlands: Bronze in ski relay, sixth in taplin relay. Steph Robinson, Natalie McDonagh, Sarah Boyd: sixth in taplin relay and eighth in beach sprint relay.

In the surf boat rowing competition the team achieved gold in Masters (Mike Lord, Gethin Edwards, Josh Edwards, John Parsons, Ben Thomas) and fifth in the Open (Gethin Edwards, Matt Wright, Josh Edwards, Mat Rowlands, Ben Thomas) beating all the strong Australian and

New Zealand crews.

The surf boat team then moved on to Biarritz for the Infinite Ocean international surf rowing event, held over three days of gruelling competition in powerful atlantic surf.

Day one was the national teams' competition; the Llantwit Major team were proud to be representing Wales against six other national teams from across the globe, including powerful Australian and New Zealand teams.

The crew made the final but the pounding surf had taken its toll on the boat which had suffered some serious damage.

Not wanting to miss an opportunity to represent their country in an international final, the rowers patched up the boat and took to the surf and came a respectable fourth overall.

Day two was the

Masters 30+ event and with a newly-repaired boat, thanks to an excellent local shipwright, the older members of the team were ready to go.

The team coped well with the powerful surf to make the final, but were unlucky as a larger than usual wave swamped the boat on the way out. The team recovered well but had too much ground to make up and finished fourth.

Day three was the open competition, with so many crews vying for a place in the grand final, it was going to be a tough day of competition.

Again the crew successfully fought their way through the waves and six rounds of racing to make the final, which turned out to be the closest race of the day.

Despite being convinced that they had won the bronze, after much deliberation from

the judges, sadly the Llantwit crew were awarded fourth (again!).

Despite the disappointment, the crew held their heads up and were pleased to have been part of such an exciting event against world class competition successfully organised by our fantastic Basque hosts. The rowing squad included Mike Lord, Gethin Edwards, Matt Wright, Josh Edwards, Mat Rowlands, Ben Thomas, John Parsons.

The whole team would like to thank their sponsors, Gewfy Industries and Clive Edwards Contracts, who helped to make this a highly successful tour possible.

For more information visit us Facebook: Llantwit Major Surf Lifesaving, Llantwit Major Surf Boat, or Twitter: LMSLSC Surfboat Team.

GE



Photographs by Alan Dabbadie.



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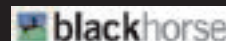
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DAI COMES SO CLOSE!



Captain Mike King with sponsor Dai John with winners Neil McLean and Bob Glover.



Three generations of golfers from the same family - Mark Edwards, Glyn Watts-Jones and Martin Edwards, with society captain Mike King.

THE late Sir Henry Cotton MBE, five times a major champion, once said that he had travelled the world playing golf but had never seen such golfing beauty as he witnessed when playing a round at Neath Golf Club.

Situated 600 feet above sea level with its magnificent views stretching from the Mumbles to the south and Brecon Beacons to the north, Neath Golf Club was to prove a perfect venue for the monthly meeting of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society.

Competing for the Arthur John & Co Cup the event was keenly contested with the day's generous sponsor, Dai John, setting a hot pace to move into a commanding lead at the halfway stage.

In the chasing pack, society vice captain Brian Jones was very prominent, as was Neil McLean who finished the front nine just two points behind the leader.

Entering the closing holes, disaster struck for Dai John when finding a bunker on the short, par 3, 14th hole and then failing to score on the par 3 17th hole.

This allowed Neil McLean to recover the two-shot halfway deficit on Dai and collect the Arthur John & Co Cup as a result of a better back nine, both finishing with 33 points.

Jim Hayes, having overcome the dreaded shanks which has been a feature of his game for the last 12 months, finished third with 28 points and Brian Jones

finished fourth, also with 28 points.

Nearest the pin on the Llanerch Vineyard and Restaurant sponsored par 3-holes were David Williams and Martyn David and Society President Geraint Davies hit the longest drive on the selected hole to collect the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge sponsored prize.

Hugh Williams, Terry Kidd and Bob Glover were welcome guests, with the latter collecting first prize in this section when finishing with 28 points.

Martyn David collected the Premier Turf sponsored bottle of whiskey when correctly guessing 62 balls would fail to return home with a high percentage of these finding their way into the field adjoining the intimidating par 5 opening hole.

Society members are now looking forward to their annual match against their farming friends from the Monmouthshire Farmers Golf Society scheduled for Tuesday, October 16, at Whitchurch (Cardiff) Golf Club.

T.McC

VIFC extend lead at top of the table

VIFC extended their lead at the top of Division One to 12 points as they disposed of Rhosoe Athletic B, although Wenvoe do have three games in hand on the leaders.

Jordan Mortimore scored four times, the captain opening and closing the scoring. Deon Garrison and Leigh Lewis added the other goals.

VI survived an early scare as they made a sluggish start and conceded a penalty but the Athletic player blazed the spot kick over the bar.

The league's pacesetters were in front not long after with a well-worked goal that saw Garrison sidefoot the ball over the line despite the away defender getting the final touch.

VI soon had a penalty of their own after a hand ball and Mortimore dispatched it handily. Athletic pulled one back before the break as the ball was lost in midfield and their forward was put through and rounded Paul Lucas to score.

Athletic appealed again for a penalty not long after but their attacker was deemed to have dived. VI keeper Lucas took exception to this and clashed with the Athletic player and was red carded after a moment of madness. VI were reduced to 10 men right on half-time.

After a reshuffle, Tony Charles and Leigh Lewis were introduced as Rob West donned the gloves. Lewis soon helped settle the home team as he tapped home from close range to set VI on their way to all three points.

Mortimore added his second from a Reece Lewis corner before firing his

second penalty of the game to make it 5-1 and complete his hat-trick. Centre half Richie Humphreys went on a now trademark meandering run from defence to attack but was crowded out before he could finish off a moment of magic.

Mortimore then produced his own magic by nutmegging a defender on the edge of the area and firing into the top corner with aplomb for his fourth of the game, a tremendous finish.

After scoring four goals, the VI skipper and talisman picked up man of the match, just edging Joe Laing who put in another fine display in midfield.

VI's promotion rivals Cogan and Rhosoe Rovers could only draw 1-1 which helps VI's chances, leaving Cogan 14 points off the top in third, although they have three games in hand too.

It's a break from the race for promotion to the Premier League this Saturday for Barry Cup action. VIFC travel to division two promotion hopefuls BVFC in what promises to be a tough encounter.

Team line-up: P.Lucas, J.Robinson, R.Humphreys, R.West, S.Thomas, J.Laing, D.Garrison, D.Cleave, R.Lewis, J.Mortimore, A.Rogers. Subs: T.Charles, S.Flynn, L.Lewis, K.Walsh.

We'd like to thank our fans and sponsors for their continued support. Owens Motor Services, Llandow, Higgsy Site Services and The Three Horseshoes Inn, St Athan.

HD

Cowbridge under-16s in tight encounter

COWBRIDGE under-16s entertained old rivals Porthcawl in perfect conditions and as usual the match was a close run affair.

Cowbridge dominated the first half with two excellent tries, the first scored by left wing Sam Palmer with a fine individual run from inside his own half and the second coming from an excellent run from flanker Harrison Stephens, who off-loaded on the Porthcawl 25 metre line to right wing Sean Davies, who outpaced the opposition to score in the corner.

Outside half Cai Evans converted one of the tries to give the home side a 12-point lead. Porthcawl converted a penalty just before halftime to reduce the arrears to nine.

The second half belonged to the visitors, who dominated for long periods and finally broke the Cowbridge resistance with a well-worked try, which was converted.

This was followed by a second penalty to leave the game on a knife edge with Porthcawl now leading by a point with 10 minutes remaining.

Excellent defensive work from Joe Nott, Will Couzins and Matthew Keating held Porthcawl at bay and with five minutes remaining Cowbridge were awarded a difficult penalty, which Cai Evans converted from the touchline to retake the lead by two points.

A final onslaught by Porthcawl brought them within five metres of the line but a try-saving tackle by Sean Davies in the last minute resulted in a win for the home side in yet another

close encounter.

Prominent in the backs were Osian John, Carl May-Rees and Dan Bunney.

In the forwards Otto Guwy dominated the lineout, Harry Hopkins and Josh Evans were outstanding in the rucks and Tom Edwards and Owain Jenkins provided a number of turnovers at crucial times.

ML

Llantwit under-7s in tough game

LLANTWIT Major RFC under-7s hosted Brecon RFC last Sunday at the Rec in glorious early October sunshine.

We started again with a training session, working hard on ball handling and tagging.

Following their long journey, Brecon arrived with nine players so it was decided to play a 7-a-side game to give more players a run rather than the normal 5-a-side.

Brecon were a tough side and pushed the pace in all three games. Llantwit continued to work hard and pulled back an equaliser in the last match. Brecon triumphed on

the day with an overall tally of 22 tries to 13 tries (5 - 10, 3 - 7 & 5 - 5).

Llantwit's try scorers were Thomas Collins, Joel Harris, Jos Bourner, Theo Elsenburg, Dylan Godsell and Lloyd Morgan. The team look forward to the return game in Brecon that is scheduled for February.

Even though it was a defeat on the day the coaches were pleased with the noticeable improvements in the team's passing. Quick passing following a tag tackle resulted in a few tries scored by Jos Bourner and Lloyd Morgan, who took full advantage of the Brecon defence not being unable

to organise themselves quickly enough.

Player of the day was given to Thomas Collins in only his second game for the team. He has settled well into the team and has even managed to get his name on the scoresheet each week - well done! This week the team travel to Cardiff to face Rhiwbina.

Team: Jos Bourner, Bledwyn Mitchem, Joel Harris, Dylan Godsell, Sam Whitbread, Aaron Moce, Lloyd Morgan, Myles McQuaid, Evan Boulton, Thomas Collins, Theo Elsenburg.

IG

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Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge club for September 29:

1st Andrew O'Sullivan & Liam Sheridan 65.53%, 2nd Marjorie Morris and Linda Pinnock 62.88%, 3rd Steve Burgoyne & John Evans 57.95%.

LE

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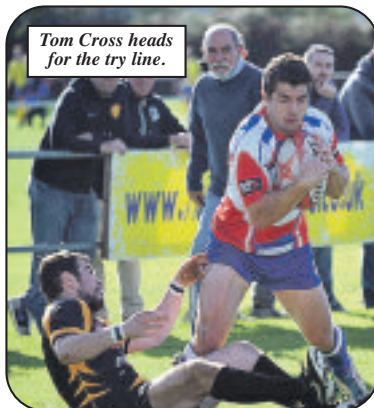
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Pencoed top the table after emphatic victory over Celtic



Glen Hiscocks grabbed a hat-trick of tries on Saturday to help send Pencoed to the top of the league. PHOTOS BY JULIE HANCOCK.



Tom Cross heads for the try line.

PENCOED moved to the top of the Division Two West Central league table with this comprehensive 48-8 victory over their Llynfi Valley visitors, Maesteg Celtic.

Historically matches between the clubs have been closely-fought affairs, but on this occasion Pencoed had not read that script.

Despite early Celtic pressure at the clubhouse end the home defence held firm, before creating a couple of chances, wing Glen Hiscocks almost breaching the visitors' defence.

The considerable home support did not have to wait too long for the opening score however; the threequarters moving phase possession swiftly

to Hiscocks, who raced over.

Pencoed then increased their lead with a superb counter-attacking score from 60 metres. Again moving the ball wide, full back Tom Cross made ground before a well-timed pass sent left wing Aaron Songhurst racing away from his own half to score, Marc Davies adding the conversion.

Sustained pressure in the visitors' 22 brought Pencoed their third try of the half; clever exploitation of the blindside saw skipper Keiron Moore drive across at the corner flag to put his side 17-0 ahead.

Celtic outside-half Luke Richards then opened his side's account with a penalty goal. Pencoed won a turnover at the set scrumage just prior to the interval, a

psychological boost for a home team gaining in confidence.

Home outside half Davies slotted a penalty goal shortly after the resumption and Pencoed led 20-3. Cross put Pencoed in prime position in the visitors' 22 before driving play from Moore and Dai Pearson put the visitors on the back foot, and quick possession saw Davies pick out Cross in a congested midfield for the Pencoed man of the match to pluck the ball out of the air at pace to go over under the posts, Davies converting.

Pencoed's expansive game was now coming to the fore and following interpassing between backs and forwards, Hiscocks burst over, Davies converting. Then a scattato-style run saw Cross break the last defender's tackle to score

wide out, Davies adding the extras.

An intricate home midfield move between Adam Williams and Lloyd Ryland saw blindside wing Hiscocks receive the ball in the outside centre position, and the pacy Hiscocks raced over for his try hat-trick – the conversion

saw Pencoed lead 48-3. To their credit, Celtic got a deserved score with a well-worked try from Jamie Lee, and Pencoed ran out 48-8 winners.

On Saturday, Pencoed travel to Aberavon Quins, 2.30pm kick off, and a supporters' coach will be available.

TR

A 'ground-breaking' deal for Scorpions

SOUTH Wales Scorpions' players have been accepting ground-breaking contracts as the club moves into 2015.

Over 20 players have now accepted terms for next season as playing hasn't been the only thing that's enticed them to the club – they've been offered a share in profits too.

In what is believed to be a first for professional rugby league, every Scorpions player and staff member next season will receive an equal share in the club's end of year profits, gain cashback on tickets sales they make to the two big games of the season, and take a personal commission on any sponsorship they derive for the club.

This exciting development was brought about by Wales Rugby League who took over the ownership of the club earlier in the year.

Scorpions captain, Phil Carleton, said: "This is a win win situation for all involved. I can't see why anyone would disagree and why more clubs or teams from all

aspects of sport don't take a similar approach.

"The offer from WRL and South Wales Scorpions is not only generous but shows all involved we are trying to take steps to allow the players and staff to become a real part of the club and take some pride and ownership of what they are part of."

IG

Tata have just too much Steel for Bridgend Athletic

BRIDGEND Athletic visited a Tata Steel side containing three former Athletic players in half back pairing Efan Ellis and Steve Lewis, and flanker Stuart Edbrooke.

Tata kicked off into the Athletic 22 and within a minute were awarded a penalty on the 22-metre line. Lewis pulled his kick wide.

However two minutes later a second penalty was good and gave Tata a 3-0 lead. Lewis was involved in the first Athletic score as centre Ryan Owen charged down his kick on half-way, gathered the ball and sprinted 50 metres to cross in the corner.

Tata spurned another kickable penalty in favour of kicking to touch for a five-metre catch and drive line out. Unfortunately for them Athletic captain Sean Williams stole the line out and the Athletic were able to clear their lines.

Shortly after, Tata tried another ruse, throwing the ball to the front of a five-metre line out – but the throw was gathered inside the line and the Athletic were awarded a free kick.

Tata were awarded another penalty and this time elected to kick for goal, and Lewis was successful to put them 6-5 ahead.

Indiscipline then saw two Athletic players, prop Matthew Norman and lock Tom Penry-Ellis, awarded yellow cards within the space of seven minutes.

Tata elected for a five-metre scrum instead of a

kick at goal. With the drive halted, they moved the ball quickly along the line for wing Jordan Crealock to cross in the corner to open up an 11-5 advantage.

The Athletic hit back and a period of pressure drew a yellow card for Tata lock Danny Hockin. Now restored to 15 men, the Athletic kicked the penalty to touch five metres out and served Tata with a dose of their own medicine as they drove over the line for hooker Simon Mustoe to cross wide out.

With the last action of the half, outside half Josh White converted to give the Athletic a 12-11 halftime lead.

Now enjoying wind and a man advantage the Athletic took the game to Tata. A break from full back Rhys Ward Jones, carried on by No 8 Dan Apsee, saw a two-to-one overlap. Unfortunately wing Stuart Griffiths was unable to hold on to Apsee's pass.

This proved costly as the Athletic were driven back into their own half and saw captain Sean Williams become the third Athletic recipient of a yellow card.

Tata elected for a scrum instead of a penalty and with a man advantage drove the Athletic towards their own try line.

Referee Gareth John judged that the Athletic transgressed and awarded a penalty try which Lewis converted to put Tata 18-12 ahead.

Not for the first time, one minute later poor tackling in the midfield allowed the Tata backs to break out of their own 22.

The move was finally halted just short of the

Athletic try line. Tata drove the resultant five-metre line out over the whitewash for captain and prop Gareth Edwards to claim the touch down. Lewis converted to stretch the lead to 25-12.

The Athletic had another chance to add to their try tally but again the unfortunate wing Stuart Griffiths was unable to hang onto a pass. Tata took advantage and from a scrum heal against the head moved the ball to replacement centre Robin Lock to evade a tackle and cross for a bonus point try to stretch the lead to 30-12.

To their credit, the Athletic did not fold and moving the ball along the line saw wing Dan Howells cross in the corner. White was unsuccessful with the last kick of the game to see Tata turn out 30-17 victors.

The Athletic were left to rue what might have been. Lessons were not learnt in discipline against Swansea as yellow cards saw 14 points go to the White's with numerical advantage.

This time Tata had three of their four tries and put 19 points on the board when Athletic players sat in the sin bin.

Aligned to two dropped scoring passes, the Athletic could have had five points for a win or potentially two points for a four try bonus point and point for finishing within seven points of Tata, instead of heading along the M4 with nothing to show for their efforts.

Another feature to disturb the coaches will be the number of tackles missed, allowing Tata to get away from positions inside their own 22 relatively easily.

Team manager Paul Hearn summed up: "Everyone is disappointed with this result but we have ourselves to blame in receiving three yellow cards and bombing at least three genuine try-scoring chances."

"In addition to that, our defence in the second half was a complete contradiction to the effort put in the first half. We felt that the game was there for us to win but we blew it. We now face a difficult batch of games and we have to start taking our chances when they come, starting this Saturday against Blackwood at Newbridge Fields."

EA

AB

Bridgend bridge club

THE results for Bridgend Bridge Club for recent events are:

Wednesday, October 1 - First, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; second, David and Norma Newman; third, Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner.

Friday, October 3 - First, Jenny Vaughan and Irene Thomas; second, Eileen Mahoney and Geoff Barnett; third, Alan Williams and Liam Sheridan.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesdays and Fridays at Noltan Church Hall at 7pm. We try to start at 7pm so it helps if people arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursdays from 2pm to 5pm,

also at Noltan Church Hall, there are gentle bridge sessions for the less experienced where assistance is readily available.

The best placed improvers for October 2 were Arthur Harvey, Michael Williams, Teresa Griffiths, and Linda Jenkins.

There are lessons on Thursdays at 11am, also at Noltan Church Hall, primarily for beginners and those who have played some bridge and would like to improve either or both their bidding and card play.

It is still possible to book a place on the course - contact John Evans on 01656 880372.

DN

We welcome your sports reports, news and items of interest - email: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

Bowls club hold their presentation evening

BRIDGEND Municipal Bowls Club recently held their presentation evening at the Caefatri in Coity Road.

The men's champion was Ken Taylor, while the ladies' champion was Eirlys Davies. Eirlys won the four singles competitions, together with the pairs and mixed triples competitions! In the 'Champion of Champions', where they play each other, Eirlys was the winner.

BMBC have encouraged deaf, partially sighted and blind bowlers to join their ranks in recent months and this culminated in a very successful finals weekend for them.

Julie Thomas, who is blind, won the novices cup against a sighted player 21-6. She narrowly missed out on being selected for the disabled Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in

the summer, only because she had missed the deadline for entries, but succeeded with her partially sighted partner in beating a New Zealand pair at Barry Athletic Club in August.

She is inspirational and we hope others will be encouraged to take up the sport on hearing of her success.

Val Chard, who is deaf and partially sighted, was a finalist in the ladies' championship and in the 2 Wood competition and a winner in the triples competition.

Val, too, is competing all over the country in competitions organised by the deaf association.

These two ladies show what can be done to overcome their handicaps. We wish them continued success and hope that BMBC continue to attract disabled bowlers.